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Brush fire wipes out acres of vegetation in Evergreen

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A large brush fire torched several acres of vegetation in Evergreen below Mt. Tapochau yesterday.

As of press time, the fire was still raging and lighting up a hill near Kannat Tabla.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services has yet to release information about the wildfire.

Some construction workers who live in Kannat Tabla said they first

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Atalig undergoes quadruple bypass

» Not sure yet when he would be cleared to return

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MPLT defers action on line of credit

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

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MMAC nets over $200K

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 17th Annual Marianas March Against Cancer was able to raise over $200,000 over the weekend, despite Super Typhoon Yutu last October dampening efforts to raise funds this year.

In total, the 2019 MMAC received $213,784.15 in in-kind and monetary donations. This year's MMAC had

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Although the total earnings did not exceed last year's $250,800, MMAC steering committee co-chair Bobby Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* in an in-

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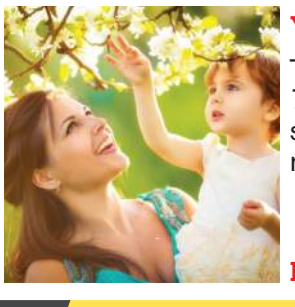

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Local

'CPA field might become new home of MMAC'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With its traditional home at the Hopwood Middle School soccer field laid waste by the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu last October, the Marianas March Against Cancer found a new home this year in an empty field near the Saipan airport.

The 2019 MMAC steering committee co-chairs Carline Sablan and Bobby Cruz both had positive words about the first time the Commonwealth Ports Authority Field, or Airport Field, was used as the fundraiser's venue, with Cruz even estimating that about 7,000 people attended the event at one point last Friday evening.

"It's hard to let go of Hopwood because it has been our home; we know how everything works there," Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*. "Everything just works there. In terms of logistics we just know exactly what to do."

That became moot, though, after Hopwood Middle School was destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu.

The Airport Field, while larger than the one at Hopwood, has its own set of challenges, Cruz said, including the lack of power poles.

"There weren't any power poles here. It was just basically an open field," he said, noting that not even lights were available at first.

In a separate interview with *Saipan Tribune,* Sablan noted both CPA and CUC coordinated with the MMAC steering committee to make the event happen, with CUC even becoming one of the star sponsors of the event.

"We were very fortunate to have CPA come in and help us out in terms of hosting the event on their field," Sablan said. "Hopwood was devastated by Super Typhoon Yutu and we scrambled but the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was willing to take us on as a sponsor this year."

According to Sablan, organizational meetings for the event happened right after Super Typhoon Yutu in late October 2018, before becoming more frequent during the beginning of 2019.

"This year was especially challenging…with Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu. Despite all the setbacks, we were able to pull together and make this event possible because we cannot let Team Courage down," she said, referring to the team composed mostly of cancer survivors and their families.

"That is the goal: to continue year after year," she added referring to future MMAC plans. "Most likely, it will be here [in the CPA field]," Sablan said, but emphasized that planning for the 2020 MMAC has yet to begin.

Man pleads not guilty to assault

A man who allegedly sexually assaulted a minor has pleaded not guilty.

Roland Joseph Sablan, 52, pleaded not guilty yesterday to the charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

According to court information, Sablan was arrested in April for grabbing the buttocks of a 17-year-old girl without her consent on Jan 20, 2019.

Sablan, who was found indigent because he claims he and his partner are jobless and support a family of six, was represented by assistant public defender Stephanie Boutsicaris.

During the arraignment yesterday, the government was represented by Office of the Attorney General's assistant attorney general Robert Glass.

Sablan was ordered to return to court on June 5 at 9am for a status conference. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Aldan: About 90 percent of Tinian now have power and water supply

Concrete power poles have already been installed along this main road on Tinian in this photo taken last weekend. About 90 percent of the people on the island now have access to power and water.
ROSELYN MONROYO

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TINIAN—About 90 percent of Tinian households and businesses now have access to electric power and water supply, according to Mayor Edwin Aldan last Friday.

Aldan

"Almost all the people are now getting power and water," said Aldan.

He conceded, though, that the electric power aspect of the recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation is still ongoing and that there are still supplies for power poles that are being brought in.

He said the crew of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s contractor from Colorado, Primary Source Electric, are still on island, doing some work on streetlights on corners that were not really a priority during the restoration after Yutu.

"But, as far as the people are concerned, like what everybody says, we are very resilient," the mayor said.

Aldan believes that people have moved on from being dependent on assistance.

"They are already on their own. There are still those in tents but some of them have spent their own money to rebuild their houses," he said.

Aldan estimates that there are now only about seven to eight households who are still living in tents on Tinian.

Yutu devastated Saipan and Tinian last Oct. 24 and 25. According to CUC, 797 power poles or 42 percent of power poles on Tinian were damaged.

A resident, who asked to be named only as John, said their power and water supply were restored over two months ago.

John said that life on the island became difficult a couple of months after Yutu because of the massive devastation but people are resilient and helped each other.

He said the Federal Emergency Management Agency gave them a generator, while other agencies such as the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, provided them food, bottled water, and other household supplies.

"We were even given money to buy fuel for a while," he said.

Lion's Club cleans Ladder Beach

One of several local Lion's Club International organizations cleaned up the Ladder Beach last Sunday morning.

Nineteen members of the Saipan Alliance Lion's Cub cleaned up Ladder Beach in Obyan of trash such as plastic bottles, bags, cans, diapers, paper, and other garbage.

Club vice president Bhiya Canadalla noted that the 19 members did the cleanup work from 7am to 11am. "We do this every year. This is our third year picking up trash in this area," she said.

She did not confirm how many pounds of trash were collected.

Club president Danny Robles noted that the activity is part of the organization's mission to spread environmental awareness.

"We do this community project twice a year," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "Our next cleanup this year might be this August or October."

This coming Sunday, the club would be working on a bus shelter they've adopted in Koblerville.

For those interested in joining the cleanup, contact Canadalla at 285-6899 or the club secretary at 788-4108. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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Tinian holds 63rd San Jose fiesta in a show of resilience

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TINIAN—The celebration of the 63rd Tinian San Jose Fiesta over the weekend was not only a parade of festivities at the Antonio M. Borja Amphitheater, but also a defiant show of resilience that showcased Tinian's capacity to rise in the wake of one of the strongest typhoons to hit the island in years.

Fresku vendors show the meal they prepared for the cook-off competition among the food concession booths at the Antonio M. Borja Amphitheater. Fresku won the contest held in celebration of the 63rd Tinian San Jose Fiesta, besting 10 other entries.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cooking competitions, a tug-of-war, a concert, a cultural show, a magic display, a crab race, and a dance contest were held during the three-day event, with the island determined to show that it can power through the challenges it is facing in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu, which hit Tinian in October 2018.

"We come together to keep our tradition, to showcase our local performers and arts and crafts, and show our island hospitality," Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan said during the opening of the fiesta honoring the island's patron saint, San Jose, the worker.

"Four months ago, our island was a place of inexistence because of the damage left by Yutu. But the storm could not stop us from celebrating the fiesta. The people of Tinian are resilient and optimistic and, with teamwork, we are able to pull this through," said Sen. Jude Hofschneider.

In last Friday's opening, ceremony, Taotao Taga Dance Co./Guma Simiyan Manainata/Famaguon Taga-Culture provided the cultural show, while Saipan's Neil Fama wowed the crowd with his magic tricks. Then last Saturday, Guam's the John Dank Show held a concert, while the six candidates for the 2019 Miss Marianas were introduced to the Tinian community.

In the many competitions, Fresku won the booth decorating and fiesta cook-off contest. Tropics finished second in the cook-off, while Sweetie's Corner and Garden of Eden joined Fresku in the Top 3 winners for the booth decorating competition.

In the cha-cha dance contest, the pair of Jesus San Nicolas and Carmen Quitugua edged out Jay Jess San Nicolas and Joseph Roland Reyes and Jesus P. San Nicolas and Sylvia San Nicolas.

One of the 18 concession booths, Garden of Eden, will be donating all their sales to the rebuilding of the San Jose Church. Since the fiesta celebration was a fundraiser, other booths will also donate portions of their sales to the restoration of the church and its other facilities, including the social hall.

"We would like to thank all the supporters of our fiesta. Your generosity is much appreciated, especially after what we have gone through late last year," Aldan said.

This year's fiesta was sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority, Marianas Pacific, Mobil Oil Marianas, Bridge Investment Group, IT&E, Docomo Pacific, and the Tinian Mayor's Office.

Study says Hawaii reefs provide $835M in flood protection

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii's coral reefs provide more than $835 million in flood protection for the state annually, according to a new study.

The report by the U.S. Geological Survey, The Nature Conservancy and the University of California-Santa Cruz established the value that the natural formations provide the islands, The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported Saturday.

The team worked with the engineering and insurance industries to create models estimating values for almost 2,000 miles of U.S. coral reef coastline.

"Most people have no idea how valuable coral reefs are for coastal protection," co-author Michael Beck, a research professor at UC-Santa Cruz, said in a statement.

Reefs act as submerged breakwaters, dissipating up to 97% of wave energy offshore. The new research has built what are now the best flood risk maps available for U.S. coastlines, predicting risk at 33 feet by 33 feet (10 meters by 10 meters), which Beck said is comparable to one-100th of a city block.

"What you sort of forget is that if that reef wasn't offering that protection, you and that beach would not be there," he said.

Reefs provide more than $1.8 billion in flood protection annually, including about $12 million on Kauai, $395 million on Oahu, $377 million on Maui and $51 million on the Big Island, the report said.

The report says that in a 50-year storm, coral reefs off Honolulu alone could provide more than $435 million in flood protection.

The research included the coastlines of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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DPS responds to 60 active reports over the weekend

This past weekend the CNMI Department of Public Safety responded to 60 active calls on Saipan and made eight arrests.

From 11pm on Friday, May 3, through 11pm on Sunday, May 5—a 48-hour period—CNMI DPS responded to 911 calls and were dispatched to 60 different calls, which included an auto-related incident, civil matter, criminal mischief, distressed vessel, disturbing the peace, domestic violence, driving under the influence, illegal possession, indecent exposure, injured person, robbery, stolen vehicle, suspicious vehicle, and theft.

DPS would like to encourage the public to do the right thing and report suspicious activity by calling 911; operators are standing by. ***(PR)***

CHCC saw over 6,600 patients in Yutu response

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp. saw over 6,600 patients through its outreach operations in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu last October.

CHCC, in its After Action Report for Super Typhoon Yutu that was released last week, said the corporation was able to service a total of 6,625 patients throughout Saipan and Tinian in the wake of the typhoon.

CHCC's outreach efforts through its Dandan and San Antonio satellite clinics and village and shelter outreach were assisted by Team Rubicon, Americares, Marianas Reserve Corps volunteers, providers from the CHCC and Children's Clinic, and the U.S. Public Health Service, among many others.

The After Action Report, or AAR, also noted that some patients were also provided with crisis counseling and intervention outreach at the shelters and the two satellite clinics provided by the Community Guidance Center.

"Daily surveillance mitigated potential outbreaks of infectious diseases in shelters and the vulnerable community, combined with water, sanitation, and hygiene, or WASH, strategies to encourage proper hygiene practices and hand washing," the AAR report's summary noted.

It noted that the Bureau of Environmental Health also inspected shelters and business establishments, including vendors providing daily meals to response staff.

"The CHCC showed strong response management and leadership. Quality of services was never compromised, and the needs of both patients and CHCC staff were addressed quickly and effectively during the response," the report added.

CHCC spokesperson Zoe Travis told *Saipan Tribune* that the AAR has yet to be made public but there are plans to make it public in the future.

Marianas ocean tourism ambassador films anew

The Marianas Visitors Authority continues to build in its dive focus for the Marianas with a new underwater film and photography by Marianas ocean tourism ambassador Yorko Summer.

Summer was on Saipan and Tinian on April 21-28, 2019, to film for a new dive video that will be used to promote the Marianas at Diving Resort Travel in May and Asia Dive Expo in July.

"Summer has a great passion of protecting the marine environment and has been our 2018 and 2019 Marianas ocean tourism ambassador," said MVA marketing manager Thomas Kim. "He is listed in the top 100 underwater photographers in the world and is a regular speaker invited to major dive fairs."

The new video also aims to attract families of divers. ***(MVA)***

ATALIG

From Page 1

elyn Atalig.

Steven Pixley, counsel for Evelyn Atalig, said the Ataligs traveled to the Philippines last April 18.

Pixley said he was informed that Efraim Atalig underwent quadruple bypass surgery, an open-heart surgery that is done to improve the blood flow that feeds the heart.

Evelyn Atalig informed the court about Efraim Atalig's surgery in her motion to postpone the jury trial in their case. The trial is currently set for June 4, 2019.

Pixley said that, based on his research, he understands that the recovery period following quadruple bypass surgery is typically six to 12 weeks.

The lawyer said pursuant to the court's order granting Evelyn Atalig's motion to travel to the Philippines with Efraim Atalig, she is required to return to Rota as "soon as the treatment for Efraim Atalig is completed and he is cleared to travel."

Pixley said he spoke with Evelyn Atalig last Saturday and, based upon the conversation, it has not yet been determined when Efraim Atalig will be cleared for travel back to the CNMI.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona had granted last April 8 the mayor's request to travel to the Philippines for medical treatment.

Manglona also granted Evelyn Atalig's request to accompany Efraim Atalig to the Philippines.

Pixley said the additional time requested between the current trial date of June 4 and the new trial is necessary for him (Pixley) to prepare for trial.

Pixley said he requires more time beyond the June 4 trial date to review the voluminous discovery, investigate all the allegations, locate and interview witnesses, and prepare for trial.

The lawyer said the unanticipated serious medical issue weighs in favor of continuing the current trial setting.

The Ataligs have been charged jointly with wire fraud, theft concerning programs receiving federal funds, and conspiracy to commit wire fraud and federal funds theft. Each of them faces a separate charge of false statement.

The Ataligs allegedly arranged CNMI government-funded trips to California, Palau, Guam, and Saipan under fraudulent pretenses.

The U.S. government alleged that the primary purpose of these trips was not official business but personal travel or partisan political activity, for which the Ataligs fraudulently claimed per diem and travel reimbursement.

The defendants have pleaded not guilty.

MPLT

From Page 1

remits the full amount due [and] as soon as [DPL] remits the full amount, then we would consider taking the step," he said.

The MPLT is claiming that DPL owes it $10.9 million in public land lease revenues since 2017. DPL remitted $3 million to MPLT last Thursday and another over $300,000 that the board learned of yesterday afternoon.

Ada said that they also plan to meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in order to put a closure to the issue. "The letter to the governor would be the next step that we're going to be taking, but it will all depend on the remittance of that $7.6 million from DPL."

"This is a very crucial decision to make. It is a major investment decision that would require the full participation of the board. … That's the consensus of the board. Majority of the trustees have agreed to make that decision that we're going to wait for that $7.6 million. Then we will take it from there and proceed with what is needed. We will have more discussion on this," Ada said.

Torres had asked MPLT last April 26 for a line of credit for the CNMI government—through the Department of Finance—to help the government pay its bond obligations and to the NMI Settlement Fund.

House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan) had already introduced a bill, House Bill 21-44, to authorize that line of credit.

Attao insists that the money—in any amount that the government would get from MPLT—will not be used for operational funds but would rather address both the bonds and Settlement Fund.

Ada said the MPLT board will also discuss the suggestion of MPLT trustee Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero (Saipan) about suing DPL to settle the remittance issue. "We're not yet considering it. Anytime a trustee has a concern, it will be put on the table for a vote and a majority will pass the issue. It is a concern that we've been actually discussing—whether to take DPL to court or not."

"If an issue is put on the table, it has to be voted by the trustees. …And three out of five would have to agree whether to take DPL to court or not. That's how we conduct things here. I've been here with MPLT for seven years. We've been after DPL on that remittance every year. The $10.9 million was just two years ago," he added.

The other MPLT trustees are Maria Frica T. Pangelinan (vice chair), Peter Q. Cruz (Tinian), and Vianney B. Hocog (Rota).

FIRE

From Page 1

noticed the fire on a hill at about 3pm.

As of 6pm, firefighters were seen in Kannat Tabla on their way to Evergreen.

The fire was seen burning vegetation from the top to the side of the hill, blowing clouds of fine ash right down to Garapan.

In March 2018, brush fire wiped out 120 acres of vegetation that started in Evergreen and spread to Kannat Tabla hill. DFEMS then stationed their teams on Mt. Tapochau, Kannat Tabla by the Bishop Estate, and another in Papago to monitor the fire's movement because of its approach to the residential area in Kannat Tabla and Papago.

A string of wildland fires has struck the CNMI since last month, with the islands experiencing drought due to the dry season.

MMAC

From Page 1

terview that the amount is remarkable and only secondary, considering that the CNMI is still recovering. The goal was just to make the event happen this year.

"To have [over] 35 sponsors, 17 teams, and raise over $125,000 in monetary donations—that is just icing to this already amazing cake," he added.

He said that when the MMAC committee set out to hold the fundraiser, it wasn't so much about the fundraising effort.

"…The main purpose of the [MMAC] is to bring awareness to the community that cancer is the second leading cause of death in the CNMI and is going to impact 1 in 3 people throughout their lifetime," he added.

Cruz said this year's MMAC was held at the Airport Field, also known as the Commonwealth Ports Authority Field—an empty lot near the Saipan airport—because the Hopwood Middle School campus where the MMAC is traditionally held was leveled during Super Typhoon Yutu.

MMAC steering committee co-chair Carline Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that this year's MMAC was especially challenging because of Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu. Yet what made this year extra-special was that, despite the setbacks, the community was still able to pull together and make the 2019 MMAC possible, she said.

"We have to continue supporting the survivors and honoring those that have passed on," she said.

According to Cruz, about 7,000 people attended the annual event.

MMAC awarded plaques to the teams that won in categories like Most Funds Raised, Best Baton, Best Tent, Community Spirit, Inspirational Spirit, Most Laps, Most Luminaries Sold, Rising Star, and Rookie of the Year during the closing ceremony.

The Rising Star award was given to team CNMIGOV/Ayuda Network for raising more funds this year than in previous years.

The Rookie of the Year award was given to Team Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for being the newest team to join MMAC.

The Patty Kaipat Spirit award, an honorary award on behalf of the late Patricia Kaipat, a former member of the Commonwealth Cancer Association and the MMAC for several years until succumbing to cancer, was given to Team Bodig for their enthusiasm and participation in all MMAC meetings. Team Bodig also took home the award for Most Luminaries Sold, the Best Baton Award, and the Most Money Raised Award in the Pulan (family) category.

The Inspirational Spirit award was given to Talaabwogh Star for their unwavering spirit throughout the night.

The Most Laps award was given to Team Triple J Lancherus for running the most laps from start to finish.

Team Public School System/Saipan Paddling Club took home the Best Tent award for their creativity and the amount of work put into the decoration of their tent.

The most money raised in the Puti'on (corporate) category was Team Pacific Islands Club.

For the Most Money Raised in the Atdao (nonprofit/government) category, the award was given to team Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

The award for Most Money Raised in the Napu (school) category was given to Mount Carmel School.

The award for Most Money Raised in the Tasi (corporate/family/non-profit or school) category was given to Team IT&E/Saipan Southern High School and the award for Most Money Raised in the Tano (non-profit/school/institution) category went to Team PSS/SPC.

OPD wants DUI case of Chinese motorist dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona is asking the Superior Court to dismiss a traffic case of a Chinese national who was made to perform field sobriety tests and then arrested without being provided a translator—despite the man being unable to speak or understand English.

Zona said that Xiao Fei Gong, who speaks little to no English, did not understand any of the documents that the police made him sign.

Zona said the police gave Gong documents to sign and told him, "You sign, no problem. You sign, you go monkey house for a few hours, then we let you go."

By failing to provide him with a competent interpreter, the police violated his due process rights, Zona said, as he did not understand the procedures and was unable to determine how to proceed or even to express himself.

Chang was charged last Oct. 9 with driving while under the influence of alcohol, failing to signal, reckless driving, and refusal to submit to a breath test. He was driving a yellow Camaro on Beach Road when the police stopped him and then arrested him.

Zona asserted that the court should suppress all testimony of four Department of Public Safety police officers involved in this case, plus any results, records, or observations as a result of any field sobriety tests, and any results, records or observations of any breathalyzer or blood alcohol tests.

She asked the court to dismiss the case with finality due to the violations of Gong's constitutional rights by failing to provide him with a Mandarin interpreter.

All evidence must be suppressed, Zona said, because the stop was illegal as law enforcement had no warrant to stop, detain, or seize Gong.

She said police had no reasonable suspicion that Gong was engaged in criminal activity.

In his declaration in support of the motions, Gong said he does not speak or read English fluently.

Gong said he is able to speak very limited English sentences for hotel arrangements and to purchase items.

He said that, on Oct. 9, 2018, a police car honked at him so he changed lanes. He thought the police were honking at him to get him to change lanes as the car could pass him. He put his signal on to indicate he was changing lanes. Then he pulled over to stop for the police when he saw the police lights.

The police did not ask him for his driver's license until he got to the police office.

Gong said he was not provided a translator at the time the police contacted him, pulled him over, detained him, and arrested him.

He said no one spoke to him in Mandarin.

Torres appoints Monique Sablan as a special assistant for youth affairs

Monique Boyer Sablan has been appointed Special Assistant for Youth Affairs under the Office of the Governor.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Monday that Sablan has been a consistent community volunteer and an advocate for the youth.

Sablan

"Monique… has played a vital role for the CNMI Scholarship Office by assisting our students navigate the financial aid process to pay for their higher education. Her experience and ability to work with our youth will bring innovation to our youth centers and programs," Torres said.

Sablan used to serve as the Workforce Program coordinator and public information officer for the CNMI Scholarship Office.

Sablan said it is her goal for the youth centers to become safe havens for the CNMI's children so they would feel "a sense of security, stability, consistency, and belonging…every time a child steps in to one of the many youth centers."

"Together with my team, we will create opportunities for the youth to take ownership of the centers with my staff's guidance and become community leaders through our office. We hope to create a solid mentorship program within the youth centers…," she said.

Sablan looks forward to solidifying partnerships with agencies and organizations across the CNMI to assist in the many youth programs that are currently being implemented in order to create newer initiatives for youth advancement.

Sablan served as the Marianas March Against Cancer Sponsorship Committee chair in 2018 and 2019 and the CNMI Liberation Day Committee Royal Court chair in 2018. She is also a member of the Stellar Marianas Pageant and Talent Group, which is responsible for the Miss Marianas pageant. She is a former Human Resources & Administration Development supervisor and public relations liaison for Imperial Pacific International.

Sablan received her bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Humanities & Law from the University of California, Irvine. ***(PR)***

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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, May 10, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located at the Airport Fire Station, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (May 3, 2019)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
III. CORRESPONDENCES
VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
VI. OLD BUSINESS
1. None

VII. NEW BUSINESS
1. Final Adoption of Proposed Personnel Rules and Regulations - Governor's Directives
2. Amendments to the Personnel Rules and Regulations
   a. Equal Employment
   b. Sick Leave Regulations
   c. Workplace Bullying
   d. ARFF Physical Fitness Exam Regulation
3. Personnel matters: FTE Conversions
   a. Secretary II to Secretary/Tariff Technician (Rota)
   b. Custodial/Maintenance to AOA/Ground Maintenance (Rota)
4. CDA Loan
5. Fiscal Year 2017 Audit
6. SIA PAPI/REIL Installation – Change Order No. 2, CM Amendment No. 3 and Supplemental Budget Request
7. GSN Runway Rehabilitation Repackaging - CM Amendment No. 6 and Supplemental Budget Request
8. Supplemental Budget Request:
   a. Change Order– POS Supply & Installation of Marine Fenders
   b. POS Security Cameras & Surveillance System Installation
9. Car Rental Concessions:
   a. Saipan: CPA-RFP-002-19 Authority Concession Grant CRS-2018-01–06
   b. Tinian: CPA-RFP-003-19 Authority Concession Grant CRT-2018-07–09
   c. Rota: CPA-RFP-004-19 Authority Concession Grant CRR-2018-10–12
10. GPPC, Inc. Lease
11. Hong Kong Airlines Office Lease
12. United Airlines Cargo Facility Lease

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- Legal Counsel Reports: Legal matters/Litigation

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
X. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

KIMBERLYN KING-HINDS
Chairwoman, Board of Directors

MAY 6, 2018

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Book highlights McPhetres' role in CNMI education

A recently published book tells the story of Commonwealth events that took place before the Northern Marianas College came to be and the state of education in the CNMI during the Trust Territory days.

Penned by Ivan Propst, the book, titled, *Perseverance and Grit: The Contributions of Agnes M. McPhetres to Education Across the Pacific*, highlights the role McPhetres played in pushing for an educated CNMI.

Propst spoke about the book during last week's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Giovanni's restaurant of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"We don't have enough of our history here in our community recorded. We need to record what we can," he said, noting that the book highlights CNMI education and how it came to be. "It needs to be put in print so that future generations can just read about it."

According to Propst, even McPhetres was surprised to go over what she had accomplished when she was asked to check the book for accuracy.

"I even prompted her memory of the things she has done and forgotten about, so it's nice to have it in print," he said. "She needs recognition for all that she has done."

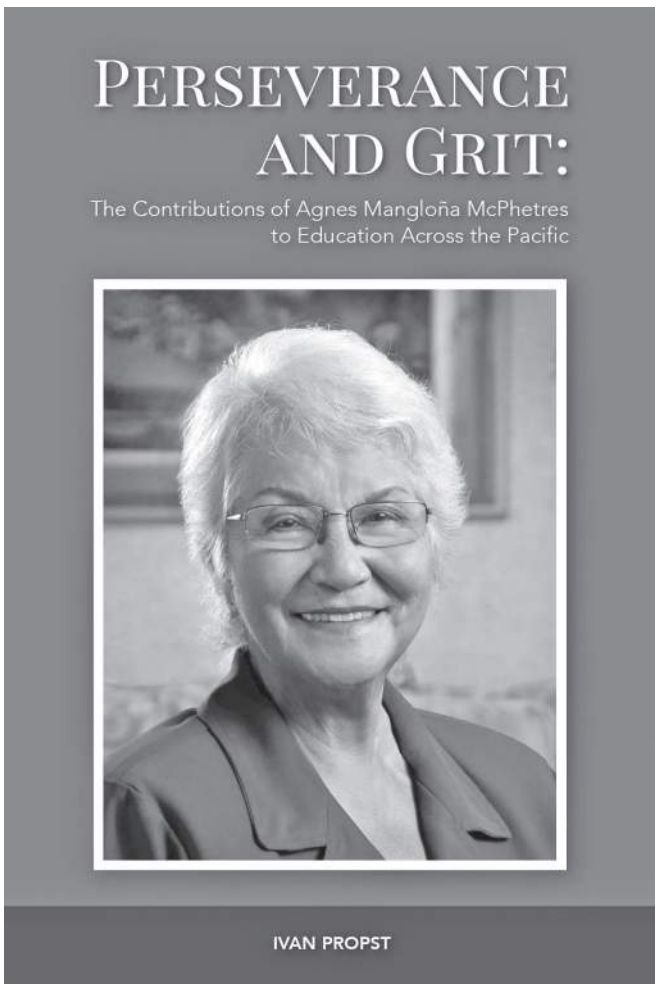
Propst said it took him about a year to complete the book, including all the research and interviews.

"This book is a record of what happened to education during the three types of educational systems," said McPhetres in an interview.

That means a little bit of the Trust Territory days of the CNMI, about NMC "because I was there at the time," and the Public School System, where McPhetres was an associate superintendent.

About the start of NMC, McPhetres said it was a real challenge—"no place to go, no classrooms, no furniture—nothing. The Legislature [at the time] thought college was a luxury."

Those interested in getting a copy of the book may head to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the NMC Library, or the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. The book costs $10 each. Proceeds of the book, according to Propst, would support wherever the book is purchased. ***(Erwin Ecnares)***



MCS holds College Week

For over 65 years, Mount Carmel School has prided itself with a college-preparatory curriculum that has helped graduates earn admission into some of the world's top universities. This past week, the school highlighted that legacy as its Student Council hosted the school's 4th College Week.

The week promoted a college-bound culture among the student body and culminated with the announcement that a number of seniors had been admitted to several prestigious colleges and universities, including the University of Notre Dame, the University of California-Berkeley, New York University, Chapman University, and Ateneo de Manila University.

MCS College Week kicked off with a weeklong series of crash course college admissions sessions facilitated by school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero.

I firmly believe that all of our students can and should go to college," he said. "Whether you pursue a four-year bachelor's degree, a two-year associate degree, or certification in a specialized field, today's job market requires additional training beyond high school, which is why we hold this annual event."

In the over two decades that he has been an educator, Deleon Guerrero has helped hundreds of students get into the colleges of their choice, including the University of Michigan, UC Berkeley, and the University of Washington.

MCS

Mount Carmel School Student Council president Dayna Macaranas signs her commitment to enroll at the University of Notre Dame. The College Signing Day was the concluding event for the school's annual College Week.

Networking and mentoring

One of the keys to getting into college is by networking with accomplished mentors, which is why the school also held several networking events for its students.

Early in the week, college-bound seniors met with juniors to offer tips and guidance on the college admissions process.

An AlumKnight College Fair also featured the school's alumni, called AlumKnights, representing their college alma maters at booths in the first-floor hallway of the school's Maturana Building. Students then had the opportunity to talk with the guests about their college experience in speed-dating-style round-robin sessions.

Colleges represented included Boise State University, Oregon State University, and Seattle University. Participating AlumKnights included Ray Muña, Coast Guard Lt. Christine Igisomar, Maisie B. Tenorio, Dr. Alfred Ada, Victoria Deleon Guerrero, David Attao, and John Blanco

On Thursday, five AlumKnights from off-island who are currently enrolled in college participated in a live, online forum with current juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. They included Ryan Ortizo, currently enrolled at Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Aydan Gagaring, currently enrolled at University of Nevada at Las Vegas; Thomas Manglona, currently enrolled at UC Berkeley; Jacqueline Doctor, currently enrolled at Emory University; and Monica Usi, currently enrolled at UC Irvine.

For Manglona, participating in the forum was a reassuring return to his alma mater, especially since he initiated College Week at the school during his senior year when he was Student Council president.

"When we first planned College Week it was not only to start a critical dialogue about admissions and financial aid, but also to showcase how exciting, challenging, and liberating college can be," he said. "I'm so glad to see other student leaders continuing the program for the benefit of our Knight and AlumKnight community. Whether you decide to leave or stay on island, it's a time to celebrate achievements of all kinds."

College Signing Day

The week concluded with College Signing Day, with seniors announcing which colleges they are attending this fall. At the ceremony, Student Council president Dayna Macaranas announced her intention to enroll at the University of Notre Dame while three seniors announced that they were accepted into and would be enrolling at UC Berkeley: Reica Ramirez, Louisa Han, and Minju Kang. Students also announced their decisions to enroll at several universities, including Chapman University, Rochester Institute of Technology, Ateneo de Manila University, the University of Hawaii, the University of Guam, and Northern Marianas College.

Ramirez was very happy with how the week turned out. "I think College Week was such a great opportunity for the high school students to learn more and prepare for college."

Student Council moderator Quincy Chinen echoed this. "College Week was a learning experience for all our high school students. As a senior my favorite parts were being able to share my college admissions experience with the junior class and watching my classmates commit to their future schools." ***(PR)***

Weatherization Assistance Program accepting applicants

The CNMI Department of Public Works Energy Division is informing all Saipan, Tinian and Rota residents that it is now accepting new Weatherization Assistance Program applications as well as applications for clients who were affected by Super Typhoon Yutu and Typhoon Mangkhut.

For residents affected by the typhoon who did not receive any financial assistance from any federal agencies, you may call the Energy Division to see whether your household qualifies to be re-weatherized.

The WAP program is designed to assist and encourage homeowners to take efficient measures through the retrofitting and replacement of inefficient home appliances such as refrigerators and window-type air conditioners and lightings with the qualified Energy Star rated labels to help reduce energy consumption.

Individuals wishing to avail of this program may obtain an application at the Energy Division on Capitol Hill, Building 1337.

For any questions regarding this program, contact program manager Christina Babauta or Energy Auditor Alexandro Castro Jr., at 664-4481/84, Monday through Friday from 7:3am to 11:30am and from 12:30pm to 4:30pm.

Funding for this program is made possible through a grant by the U.S. Department of Energy. ***(PR)***

HUMANITIES COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council elected the officers for the year 2019-2020 at its board meeting last Saturday, May 4. The officers are Polly DLG Masga, chair, Tracy Guerrero, vice chair, and Kevin Bautista, treasurer/secretary. The council is also seeking new board members. For all those interested, send your résumé and letter of interest to info@nmhcouncil.org or drop it off at the office in the Springs Plaza building, Gualo Rai. For more information call the office at 235-4785 or visit nmhcouncil.org.

Saipan native returns home, supports typhoon exercise

By JOHN LINZMEIER
PACIFIC AIR FORCES PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Being stationed overseas in a foreign country is quite an adventure, but for some airmen, home is always where the heart is. This is especially understandable when growing up on a small tropical island.

That was the experience of senior airman Mark Abrihan, who was born and raised on Saipan.

Early on in his college education, he decided to shift directions and become the first member of his family to enlist in 2015 with the intent of trying something completely different; and the Air Force delivered. Halfway through his technical training as a radio technician, he was informed of his first assignment—a yearlong tour at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.

Abrihan said he enjoyed his overseas experience and was able to visit several other European countries and support a vital NATO mission, but when given the opportunity to relocate to Andersen Air Force base, Guam, Abrihan didn't hesitate to accept, knowing it was only 130 miles away from his home island.

His career progressed and he reacclimated to his new island community in the 36th Wing. He said being closer to his family and friends was important to him, since they're now only about an hour's flight away.

"After my assignment in Turkey," said Abrihan, "I realized that every opportunity to go home is very special. I feel lucky because not a lot of active duty airmen get stationed so close to home. I'd just like to enjoy this while it lasts, because you never know what's in store next."

Abrihan's new duty station, Andersen AFB, is known for hosting large-scale exercises with military forces from around the world. Its strategic location has played a key role in projecting air superiority and maintaining stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

While having a military presence in Guam is an invaluable asset, the island is susceptible to a multitude of natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis and typhoons—all potential scenarios Abrihan grew up with.

As an initiative to improve mission readiness and protect valuable aircraft in the face of inclement weather, Pacific Air Forces held a new training exercise called Resilient Typhoon. The exercise entails a rapid dispersal of flying squadrons and support personnel to various neighboring islands, such as Palau, Tinian, Yap and Abrihan's home island, Saipan.

"I was working in my shop, thinking it was going to be a regular day, until my section chief came up and told me that I'm going home for a temporary assignment. This got me thrilled and so I started immediately pushing paperwork and prepping up."

SENIOR AIRMAN JOHN LINZMEIER

From left, Lt. Col. Shane Nagatani, 199th Fighter Squadron commander, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, senior airman Mark Abrihan, 36th Communications Squadron radio technician, and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gather during an F-22 static display tour last April 23, 2019, at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Within days of being informed about his temporary assignment, Abrihan was bound for home on a C-130J Super Hercules from Yokota Air Base, Japan. He was tasked to support a team of F-22 Raptors and support personnel, based out of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, during their inaugural appearance at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

After Abrihan's aircraft touched the ground, pallets of aircraft ground equipment were offloaded, followed by the first arrival of the "Hawaiian Raptors."

This rapid-deployment was a collaboration of active-duty airman from Guam, Japan, and Hawaii and the Hawaii Air National Guard. This combination of military components is known as total-force integration.

The event also turned out to be a unique occasion for government officials, first responders and aviation enthusiasts. Representatives from the 19th and 199th Fighter Squadrons hosted a static display tour for residents to see.

Abrihan said he was enthusiastic to be in the middle of the operation, although he could hardly wait to finish up his work so he could reunite with family and friends. However, while Abrihan was greeting his fellow islanders for the tour, one particular guest stood out and really made his day—Ralph DLG Torres, the governor of Saipan.

"This was a pretty big deal for me," said Abrihan, "I didn't expect Gov. Torres to be so interested in taking all that time to talk to me about my career. He was so happy to discover that I was born and raised [on] Saipan; he welcomed me with a hug. He also wanted to talk about my goals and other life ambitions."

Along with the governor, Abrihan ran into another familiar face. His godfather, retired Col. Harry Blanco.

"He was surprised to see me as one of the ambassadors for Pacific Air Forces and was so proud to see me join the military," said Abrihan. "It was really cool tell my dad all about it."

With a non-stop and global mission, life in the Air Force is overflowing with possibilities. Some may not always be a homerun, but every now and then people find themselves being reunited with places they call home—wherever it may be.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPORALS
ADDENDUM NO. 1
RFP19-JUDICIARY-067

"ROOFING TILE REMOVALAND FINISHING FOR THE GUMA' HUSTISIA, IMWAL AWEEWEE, HOUSE OF JUSTICE SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY"

May 6, 2019

This Addendum is issued to revise the specifications and a clarification on the scope of work. Additionally, the submission deadline has been extended for on-island and off-island proposers.

- **Roof Cavities:** Roof cavities must be insulated with the following specifications:

  a. Insulated to full depth with insulation having a minimum nominal value of R-3.0/in.

- **Roof Solar Reflectance and Thermal Emittance Specifications:** Coatings applied to the roofs must meet the following specifications:

  a. A minimum three-year-aged solar reflectance of 0.55 and a minimum three-year-aged thermal emittance of 0.75 when tested in accordance with CRRC-1 Standard. Or;

  b. A minimum Solar Reflectance Index of 64 when determined in accordance with the Solar Reflectance Index method in ASTM E1980 using a convection coefficient of 2.1 Btu/h·ft2·°F, based on three-year-aged solar reflectance and three-year-aged thermal emittance tested in accordance with CRRC-1 Standard.

- **Tile Disposal:** The scope of work includes the removal and off-site disposal of all roofing tiles from the building, including those roofing tiles that are no longer attached to the sloped roofs and which are broken into pieces and scattered throughout the building's roofs.
- **Questions:** Last day to submit questions is May 07, 2019 before the close of business. Questions received afterward will not be entertained. All questions and answers shall be shared with all proposers.
- **No Drawings or Plans:** To reiterate, no architectural or engineering plans are available.
- **Payment and Performance Bond:**

The offeror awarded a contract shall provide the following bonds: (i) A performance bond satisfactory to the government, executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to the government, in an amount equal to one hundred percent of the price specified in the contract; and (ii) A payment bond satisfactory to the government executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to the government, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract. The bond shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent of the price specified in the contract.

All required bonds must be furnished within three (3) calendar days of contract award.

- **Submission Deadline Extension:**

1. Sealed proposals must be marked **"RFP19-JUDICIARY-067"**, contain one (1) original with three (3) copies, and must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan no later than 10:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, May 06, 2019 ***is changed to read no later than 09:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, May 10, 2019.***

2. Proposers outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, May 06, 2019 ***is changed to read no later tan 09:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, May 10, 2019*** and may be made in any mode of written communication via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net.

3. For proposers located outside of the CNMI, One (1) Original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S Postal Service of the Official government postal service of a foreign country by May 06, 2019 ***is changed to read May 10, 2019*** and mailed to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply at P.O. Box 510008 C.K. Saipan MP, 96950. Proposal documents must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than the close of business May 16, 2019 is changed to read no later than the close of business May 21, 2019. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be caused for rejection of a proposal.

All other requirements stated in the Scope of Work shall remain the same.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/DAVID DLG. ATALIG
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/JOAQUIN S. REYES
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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NOTICE OF BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that Board Committees on Airport Facilities, Financial Affairs, Seaport Facilities and Personnel Affairs will be holding special meetings on Thursday, May 9, 2019, beginning 1:30 p.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located in the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan.

AGENDA

Joint Airport Facilities and Financial Affairs Committee

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (March 14, 2019)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business Items:
  1. Solar Updates
  2. Airline Incentive Program
  3. CPA Business Resource Guide
  4. RFP Concession Status
  5. Car Rental Concessions
  6. Updated Financial Affairs Committee Report
  7. Updated Airport Facilities Committee Report
IV. New Business:
  1. SIA PAPI/REIL Installation-Change Order No. 2, CM Amendment No. 3 and Supplemental Budget Request
  2. GSN Runway Rehabilitation Repackaging-CM Amendement No. 6 and Supplemental Budget Request
  3. Supplemental Budget Requests (Seaport):
    A. POS Supply & Installation of Marine Fenders
    B. POS Security Cameras & Surveillance System Installation
  4. CDA Loan
  5. Fiscal Year 2017 Audit
  6. Disability requirement for airlines
  7. Hong Kong Airlines Office Lease
  8. Tandem Skydive
  9. Micronesian Air Express (MAX) – Termination
  10. United Airlines Cargo Facility Lease
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

Seaport Facilities Committee

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (March 14, 2019)
II. Public Comments
III. Items:
  1. GPPC, Inc. Lease
  2. Ferry Passenger Fees
  3. Delta Dock
  4. Committee Report
IV. Executive Session (if needed)
V. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VI. Adjournment

Personnel Affairs Committee

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (March 14, 2019)
II. Public Comments
III. Old Business:
  1. Updated Committee Report
  2. Master Training List
  3. ARFF Fitness Training Policy
  4. Calendar of events
  5. Staff Incentive Program
  6. Travel for Staff
IV. New Business:
  1. Amendments to Personnel Rules and Regulations:
    A. Equal Employment
    B. Sick Leave Regulations
    C. Workplace Bullying
    D. ARFF Physical Fitness Exam Regulation
  2. Travel policy – Per Diem calculations
  3. Executive Director's Report
  4. Organizational chart
V. Executive Session (if needed)
VI. Miscellaneous/Announcements
VII. Adjournment

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit may be imposed for oral testimony

WSR students mark Earth Day with campus beautification

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students of William S. Reyes Elementary School took part in an Earth Day celebration two Saturdays ago, April 27, by planting trees and other vegetation that would help restore the greenery inside their campus that had been swept bare by Super Typhoon Yutu last year.

Earth Day was celebrated internationally last April 22, which fell on a school day this year, hence the school's delayed observance.

The offices of Reps. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) spearheaded the April 27 project, in cooperation with CNMI Forestry, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Educational Services, private citizen Noel Masongsong, and the WSR community.

WSR principal Naomi Nishimura said their faculty, staff, parents, and about 90 students from first to fifth grades participated in the one-day tree planting event. The children learned a bit about the seedlings that they planted.

Nishimura said that Reps. Tina Sablan and J.P. Sablan, as two leaders in Precinct 2, came up with the WSR beautification project. "We lost a lot of our trees after Yutu. This is one of their projects for Precinct 2 where they decided to help our school with our beautification project."

She added that some of their project partners were at the WSR grounds two days before Saturday's event to prepare the areas where the seedlings would be planted. "They were here two days prior to this and they were digging holes. One of the first things that they worked on was clearing the flower beds and plant boxes."

"They also did some major digging for the holes where the trees will be planted. Our ground near the stage, prior to Yutu, had trees surrounding the area and around the perimeter of the field. Now, we started replanting as our way to celebrate Earth Day. In a few months or about a year the plants and trees will grow."

Sunflowers were planted in the flower beds while vegetables like okra and eggplant, and the herb basil were put in the plant boxes, with green onions and tomatoes to be added soon. Atis, mango, star apple, and Spanish grapes—a new plant the CNMI Forestry is introducing on the islands—were some of the fruit-bearing trees that were planted.

Rep. J.P. Sablan, who is also the floor leader of the 21st Legislature, said this is part of his and Rep. Tina Sablan's projects for Precinct 2. "We started last month with a cleanup in some of the villages and beaches of Precinct 2. This month, reflecting on World Earth Day, we decided a tree planting while also cleaning up the WSR campus."

"We are thankful to the CNMI Forestry, NMC-CREES, MINA, our staff, those from the WSR community, and all the volunteers that donated plants and took the time to join us today."

CNMI Forestry provided the trees and seeds for the vegetables and other crops, while NMC-CREES gave sunflower seedlings. Masongsong, whose hobby is gardening, donated flowers.

"He [Masongsong] reached out to me and my colleague, Rep. Tina [Sablan], and donated his own flower seeds. He told us that he heard about this event so he decided to get in touch with us and donated the flowers," said Rep. J.P. Sablan.

Despite the nearly weeklong delay in the celebration of Earth Day, the students were still eager to learn about plants and trees, said Rep. Tina Sablan.

"Earth Day was last April 22 but, since it was a school day, we decided to schedule it today. It was a good event and we're really happy with what we've accomplished. You can see the kids really responded and showed up in great numbers. Some parents showed up, as well as the teachers and staff of WSR, and our partner agencies—Fire, MINA, Forestry, NMC CREES. A lot of love went into this project and we're so grateful for the outcome and turnout of the people who helped. In the years to come, we're going to see the fruits of our work today."

She and Rep. J.P. Sablan have been working on other beautification projects in Precinct 2. "We're just thinking of ways on how to help different areas in our neighborhood to recover. With our first cleanup at Sugar Dock—our way to help clean up the villages and coastal areas—a lot of kids from WSR came and helped pick up trash. And then we realized that the school also needed a lot of [tender loving care]. They lost many of their trees and flowers, so we were thinking of ways to give back. And this seems a good way to help the school as well."

JON PEREZ

Reps. Tina Sablan, second left, and John Paul Sablan, sixth left, join William S. Reyes Elementary School students and personnel from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance for a group photo after last Saturday's tree planting event at the WSR school grounds.

JON PEREZ

Staff from CNMI Forestry and the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance were among the partners in the schoolwide event.

JON PEREZ

Two WSR students, left, listen as a staff from CNMI Forestry explain how to take care of a newly-sown plant.

JON PEREZ

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), left, and WSR principal Naomi Nishimura, right, join some of the school's staff for a group photo.

JON PEREZ

Reps. J.P. Sablan, and Tina Sablan enjoy a light moment with WSR students.

JON PEREZ

Reps. Tina Sablan and John Paul Sablan join William S. Reyes Elementary School students, staff, and volunteers for a group photo after last Saturday's tree planting event at the WSR school grounds.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training in open ocean, at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct an open-ocean exercise today, May 7, and on Wednesday, May 8, from 11am to 11:55pm at the following coordinates 13° 26"N/145° 08"E and 13° 42"N/144° 36"E.

The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on May 8, from 7:30am to 8pm.

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. It is also recommended the public, commercial pilots, fishermen and marine tour operators stay clear from these areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 3-nautical mile radius of the island.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. ***(PR)***

GCC offers free Construction Boot Camp

The Guam Community College is offering a free Construction Boot Camp for the first 25 registrants. The six-week training cycle will begin on May 20 through July 2, 2019, from 8am to 4 pm at the GCC campus.

The Future Builders of Guam - Construction Boot Camp will focus on carpentry, welding, electrical, basic blueprint reading, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning. Participants will be eligible to earn nationally recognized certifications in these areas and be able to earn a National Career Readiness Certification, OSHA-10 Certificate, and CPR/Basic First Aid.

You must be a high school graduate or have your GED in addition to having your health clearance to be eligible. Seats are limited, so hurry and register today. For more information, contact Pilar Williams at (671) 735- 0205 or email pilar.williams@guamcc.edu. (PR)

Veterans' town hall meeting

The U.S. Department of Veterans Health Administration is having a town hall meeting hosted by the Veterans Affairs Pacific Island Health Care System director Jennifer Gutowski. This will be to share information, hear feedback from veterans and to answer questions on VA Health Care.

The town hall meeting for the islands of Saipan, Rota and Tinian are on:

- Saipan: American Memorial Park theater on May 7, 2019, from 3pm to 4:30pm.
- Tinian: The Mayor of Tinian's conference room, May 8, 2019, from 9:30am to 11:30am.
- Rota: The Mayor of Rota's conference room, May 9, 2019, from 10am to 12pm.

All veterans, their families, survivors and any organization or individual who works with or on behalf of veterans are encouraged to attend.

Point of Contact is Ruth Coleman, 322-0035. (PR)

Guam CHamoru commission meetings set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meeting on May 9 and 23, Thursdays, from 12:30pm to 3pm., at the Garden House, Plasa de Espana, in Hagåtña. A work session will also be held on May 16, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the same venue.

For more information contact kumisión chair/gé'helo' Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary/sikritåria Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. ***(PR)***

Air Force to conduct training at Radio Barrigada

ASAN, Guam—The 644th Combat Command Squadron is conducting training at Radio Barrigada, formerly known as the Adm. Nimitz Golf Course, until May 10, from midnight to 7pm. These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. The public should be advised that during these routine trainings, blanks may be used. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. ***(PR)***

New PH passports for releasing

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, is releasing passports to those who renewed their passports last March 3, 4 and 5. You can pick up your new passport at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg. D, second floor, top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am to 5pm (12pm to 1pm, breaktime). Bring your old passport and receipt when claiming your new passport. If someone else will pick up the passport, there must be an authorization letter from the applicant. For any inquiry or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

JKPL, Bookmobile closed for inventory

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and Bookmobile Outreach Services will be closed for five days for inventory, from May 14 to May 18, 2019. All penalties for items due during this period will be waived. We ask the public for your cooperation in utilizing library programs and services in the days not covered by inventory. ***(PR)***

Scheduled power interruptions

There will be scheduled power interruptions on the following dates, times and locations:

- **TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019 — 6:30am to 6:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road and Obyan
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: San Antonio, Susupe, Chalan Kanoa, San Jose, Oleai, As Perdido, Chalan Laulau Beach Road, Koblerville, Afetnas may be affected depending on tank level (6:30am to 8:30am)
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines
- **WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019 — 7:30am to 6:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines
- **WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019 - 8:30am to 1:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Isley Field, Dandan
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: Chalan Kiya, As Terlaje, Fina Sisu, Chalan Laulau Middle Road, Kannat Tabla, Lower Dandan, Airport Road, As Perdido, Koblerville and Tottotville
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace seven wooden poles with concrete poles
- **THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019- 6:30am to 6:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road and Obyan
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: San Antonio, Susupe, Chalan Kanoa, San Jose, Oleai, As Perdido, Chalan Laulau Beach Road, Koblerville, Afetnas may be affected depending on tank level (6:30am to 8:30am)
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines
- **FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019- 7:30am to 6:30 pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines
- **FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019– 8:30 am to 1:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Isley Field, Dandan
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: Chalan Kiya, As Terlaje, Fina Sisu, Chalan Laulau Middle
  - ❏ Road, Kannat Tabla, Lower Dandan, Airport Road, As Perdido, Koblerville, and Tottotville
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace seven wooden poles with concrete poles
- **SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019- 7:30am to 6:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines
- **SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019 - 8am to 4pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 2 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: As Lito
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road, As Lito
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: San Vicente, portions of Dandan and Obyan
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: A-15
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replacement of two wood poles with concrete poles
- **SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019- 8am to 1pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 4 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Ascencion Drive and Wireless
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Relocate one concrete pole
- **SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019- 7:30am to 6:30pm**
  - ❏ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 1 distribution circuit
  - ❏ Village location: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Power service area(s) affected: Dandan Road
  - ❏ Water service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Wastewater service area(s) affected: None
  - ❏ Work to be performed: Replace damaged power lines with new power lines

The purpose of these scheduled power interruptions is to de-energize utility lines and allow power line workers from CUC and its contracting company, Primary Source Electric, the ability to safely conduct maintenance associated with the ongoing restoration effort in the aforementioned locations.

Water service may be interrupted in the villages of Dandan and As Lito during the scheduled outages. Because of the scale of work that will be performed, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporationl). ***(PR)***

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK ERWIN ENCINARES

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios sign the Public Service Recognition Week proclamation last Tuesday afternoon. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the occasion honors the "unsung heroes" who keep the Commonwealth government chugging along. Office of Personnel Management director Isidro K. Seman noted that while tourism drives the CNMI economy, the efforts of the public service workforce should not be forgotten.

Opinion

Hafa Adai
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EDITORIAL

Hungry, homeless and in college

The belief in the value—if not the necessity—of a college education has rarely been questioned, and has grown as the workplace has become more sophisticated technically. It's only been recently that the cost of college has loomed large in our conversation about education—and with a staggering $1.5 trillion in tuition debt and soaring college costs, a breaking point seems imminent. This kind of inflation is not sustainable, especially as wages don't come near to keeping pace with costs.

Now a new study opens up another dimension of the high cost of higher ed: reports that hunger and homelessness are on the rise among college students.

The Hope Center for College, Community and Justice at Temple University released a new study this week that found a staggering 45 percent of students in colleges and universities nationwide have been food insecure in the past 30 days. Food insecurity means that they have experienced days when they don't know where their next meal was coming from. And more than half have experienced housing insecurity.

The report surveyed 86,000 students at 123 colleges across the country, including two-year and four-year institutions. The survey questioned students about how they manage to feed and shelter themselves. A range of questions delved into food issues such as "I lost weight because there was not enough money for food" or "I didn't eat for a whole day because there was not enough money for food."

These are heartrending statements for anyone to make, especially anyone who is living in this wealthy country. But for young adults who are pursuing an education, it's especially poignant. There's a big leap between the poetic version of the poverty of youth and the deprivations that can have an impact on one's ability to study or otherwise thrive.

Typically, when we contemplate the struggles for food or shelter that people experience, the default is to call on government for better and more inclusive solutions. It may be tough for some to open that sympathetic umbrella to include college students—especially since they're paying for the experience of being there. But when what they are paying is increasingly putting college out of reach for so many, we can't help calling this a crisis for which schools must take more responsibility. The average cost for a full year of tuition at a public university is $25,290, and $50,900 for a private university.

The study found that students from low-income homes are struggling more than others, with college costs challenging their ability to make ends meet. Many of these students also struggle to hold down jobs and support families.

The study points to remedies some colleges are taking, such as helping students access social services like food stamps. Many, like Temple, have opened food pantries. The typical image of a college student is one who has a support system to cover basic needs. The study suggests we need to revise our view of student life. And so do the institutions of higher learning that enroll them.

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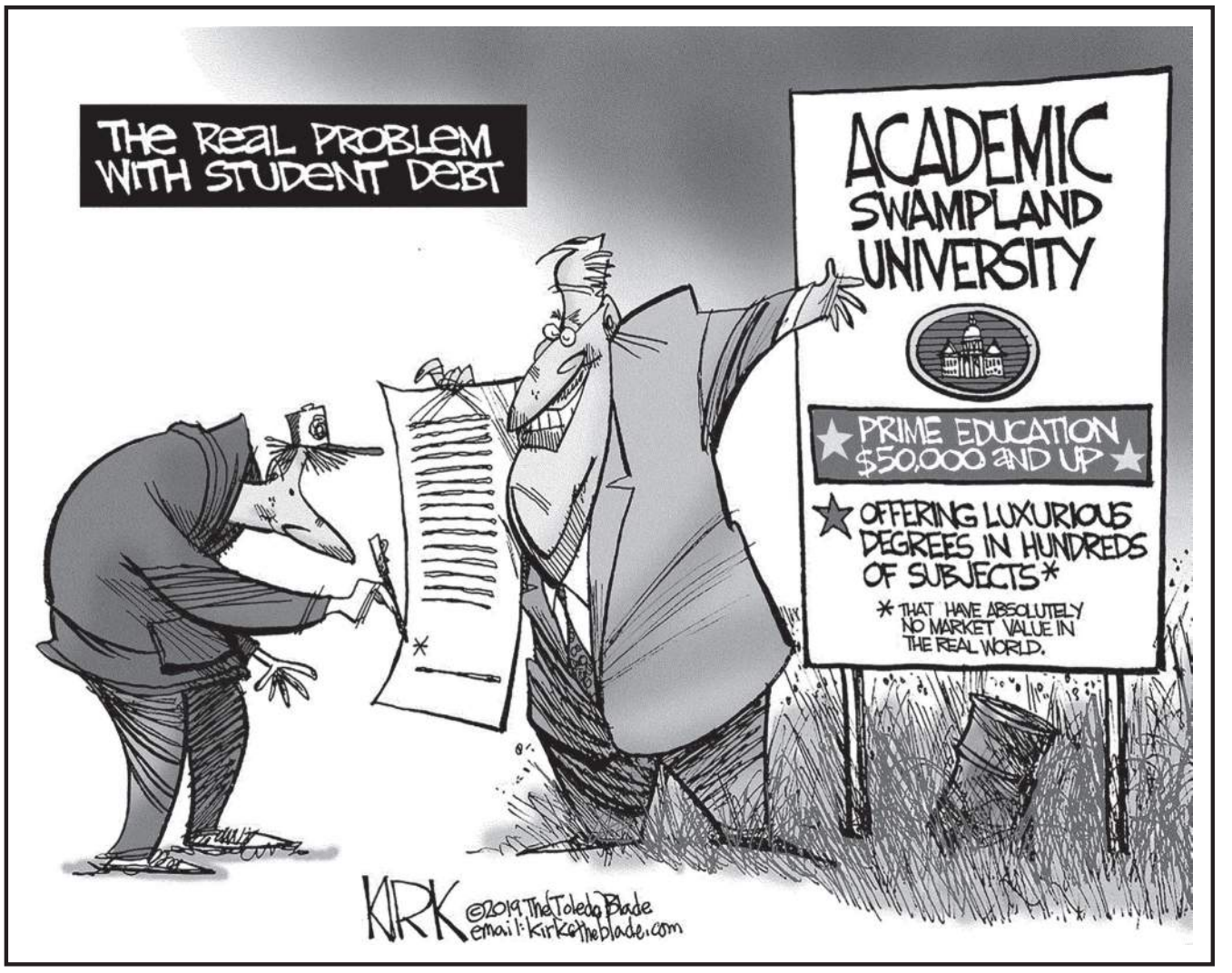
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Military rebellion in Venezuela can be called many things, but don't call it a coup try

By ANDRES OPPENHEIMER
Miami Herald

Andres Oppenheimer is a Latin America correspondent for the Miami Herald, 3511 N.W. 91 Avenue, Doral, Fla. 33172; email: aoppenheimer@miamiherald.com.

When Venezuela's National Assembly President Juan Guaido announced a military uprising Tuesday morning, Venezuela's dictatorship quickly branded it a "coup attempt." But as Guaido told me in an extended interview last week, there are several reasons why a rebellion against an unconstitutional regime can't be called a "coup."

Remember these facts when describing what happened in Caracas Tuesday, when Guaido and opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez—whom sympathetic soldiers freed from house arrest at dawn—went to a military base and declared the "final phase" of their effort to topple de facto president Nicolas Maduro:

First, Maduro became a full-blown dictator in January 2016, when he stripped the opposition-controlled National Assembly, Venezuela's congress, of virtually all powers. In December 2015, the opposition won legislative elections by a landslide, despite Maduro's use of massive state resources and press censorship to support his candidates.

Second, Maduro single-handedly stacked the National Electoral Council with cronies to prevent future opposition election victories. The new government-backed electoral body convened a sham election and created a substitute congress with handpicked legislators, called the Constituent Assembly. In other words, Maduro usurped the constitutional powers of congress and created his own legislative power.

Third, Maduro re-elected himself to a new term in a fraudulent May 20 election, without allowing any credible international observers and after banning Venezuela's top opposition leaders from running against him.

Fourth, Maduro illegally proclaimed himself president for a new full term in office on Jan. 10, 2019, despite international warnings that such a move would be unconstitutional.

Almost immediately, more than 50 world democracies—including the United States, Brazil, Colombia, Argentina and virtually all 28 members of the European Union—declared Maduro an illegitimate president and recognized National Assembly leader Guaido as Venezuela's interim leader, in charge of convening new elections.

In an interview last week, Guaido told me that a military uprising to uphold the constitution was one of the main scenarios for the restoration of democracy in Venezuela. The other scenarios he cited were that Maduro would resign under pressure from anti-government demonstrations and foreign military intervention.

Asked about his military uprising scenario, Guaido told me, "It would be a sui generis transition, much like happened in Venezuela in 1958." In that instance, he said, "A group of Venezuelan military said, 'No more!' "

On Jan. 23, 1958, members of Venezuela's armed forces toppled dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez. A transition government took office and held democratic elections that December, which President Romulo Betancourt won. To this day, a huge Caracas neighborhood, Barrio 23 de Enero, is named after the day of Perez Jimenez's ouster.

In the interview, Guaido said he did not rule out "foreign backing or cooperation" to oust Maduro's illegitimate regime. Asked whether that would not amount to a foreign intervention that would give propaganda ammunition to Maduro's supporters, Guaido told me—referring to the presence of Russian and Cuban military—"There is already a foreign intervention" in the country.

Guaido said that Maduro "has often denounced [U.S.] interference and intervention, but it turned out that it has been Maduro who has facilitated not only the arrival of these two [Russian military] planes, but also the Cuban presence in intelligence and counterintelligence activities."

Two Russian military planes landed in Venezuela on March 24, carrying about 100 military personnel and 35 tons of their equipment. "It's very serious, because foreign military aircraft arrived in Venezuelan soil without authorization from parliament, which is the only one that can authorize foreign military missions of any shape or rank in Venezuela," Guaido told me, referring to the National Assembly.

Asked how many Cubans he thinks are in his country, Guaido

See MILITARY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

What a land trust can—and cannot—do for you

Recently, I introduced you to some strategies for protecting your assets from lawsuits and creditors (equity stripping, irrevocable trusts, and sale-and-leaseback agreements). Today we will discuss another approach people often think will protect their assets—land trusts. Let's begin with two myths.

Myth 1: Land trusts always hide ownership.

Land trusts can give you privacy. But using a trust to buy land all by itself won't hide your ownership of the property. You will also need to take two other steps: pay cash and use a trustee other than yourself to represent the trust.

Why is paying in cash necessary? Because if you don't pay in cash, it means you needed a loan. And a loan normally requires a mortgage that will be recorded against the property at the Recorder's Office. The mortgage, in turn, will usually reveal that you are responsible for paying the loan. It doesn't take a genius to connect the dots from there.

Why use a trustee other than yourself? Because when a trust buys land, the way it is written on the transfer documents (and stated in future title reports and searches) is usually something like this: Jordan Sundell as trustee of the CNMI real estate trust dated April 1, 2019, or the CNMI real estate trust dated April 1, 2019, through Jordan Sundell, its trustee. In either case, if privacy is your goal, you don't want the trustee's name to be easily associated with you.

From there, it's straightforward to regain control of the trust. Have the trustee resign and then appoint yourself or, better yet, your limited liability company as the new trustee. At that point, the publicly available records will still list the original trustee but the legally relevant documents will say that you are the trustee.

Myth 2: All land trusts offer strong asset protection.

The only kind of trust that provides asset protection is an irrevocable trust, i.e., a trust that you cannot modify or cancel. And even then, an irrevocable trust won't protect you if you fully control the trust or are its sole beneficiary.

Land trusts seldom meet these criteria. Most are revocable and the person who controls it also happens to be its beneficiary. In these cases, the trust offers very little asset protection.

So, how can you use a land trust to protect your assets? Simple. Start by creating an irrevocable trust. Give the trust legal title to the property. Appoint yourself as a beneficiary with the right to assign your benefits. And then record your title's property in the name of the trust. After title has been recorded, transfer your interest as beneficiary to a limited liability company.

The transfer goes unnoticed by potential creditors because the transfer is not recorded or otherwise publicized. And the beneficial interest now falls behind the LLC's liability shield.

Now let's turn to three other ways that a land trust can help you.

First, land trusts can protect from homeowner's association liens. If you buy a condo, often the HOA will require that you buy the condo in your own name. This requirement is aimed at preventing companies from buying up condos and then turning them into short-term rentals. It is especially common in Florida but less so here.

The downside to owning a condo in your name is that you are personally liable for all HOA dues and assessments. As a result, if you fail to pay, the HOA can put a lien on the property, sue you, and go after all of your personal assets (with some exceptions).

Better to avoid that scenario by buying the property in a land trust and then transferring the beneficial interest to an LLC.

Second, using a land trust can effectively turn non-assumable loans into assumable loans.

To understand, let's take a step back. When you get a bank loan, it will have a clause saying that if you transfer the loan to someone else, the bank can demand that you immediately pay back all of the then-existing principal and interest. This language is called an "acceleration" or "due-on-sale" clause.

A land trust can allow a borrower to coast around the edges of a due-on-sale clause. To do that, the borrower needs to transfer the land's title to his land trust. And then he transfers the beneficial interest to the next person without recording the second transfer. The second transfer technically breaches the due-on-sales clause but since the transfer is not recorded, and thus not a public record, the bank won't hear about it unless the new borrower starts missing payments.

Third, parking real estate in land trusts can minimize transfer taxes. Land deals, like virtually every other transaction, from buying a can of soda to purchasing a Rolls Royce, involves putting money in the government's pocket.

Reducing these taxes is as easy as copying the same procedure as we just discussed for bypassing due-on-sale clauses. The difference though is that rather than transferring the property from your trust to a new person, you would instead transfer the beneficial title to your LLC. This second transfer is technically taxable but since the transfer is not recorded, it never comes across the government's radar.

Does this tax apply in the CNMI? The laws and regulations are clear as mud. But my experience has been that the Department of Revenue and Taxation falls on the side of common sense about this issue and therefore won't charge a tax for retitling a property's name when there's no "real" change in ownership.

But, of course, caveats apply. So, ask a few questions from knowledgeable people about your exact situation. The details matter.

This column is for information purposes only and is not intended to be taken as legal advice. For specific cases, consult a lawyer.

By JORDAN SUNDELL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business and real-estate law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns—focused mainly on real estate and small business—are published every other Tuesday. Contact Sundell at jsundell@jzgroupinc.com.

Economic nationalism is just socialism on the right

It has "invariably been the fate of conservatism to be dragged along a path not of its own choosing," the philosopher and economist Friedrich Hayek famously wrote. Hayek's larger point was that while conservatism plays an important role in pumping the brakes on radical ideas that go too far, too fast, it lacks a positive alternative agenda itself.

In fairness to American conservatism, Hayek was talking primarily about the European variant that defended a status quo of aristocracy, theocracy and a fairly closed economy. But his basic point about the conservative temperament has always resonated with me, because it rings true. Conservatives often start from the position of saying "No" to any new proposal or reform and end up, because of the nature of politics, agreeing to some compromise between no and a total yes.

Sometimes this is fine. Sometimes it's worse than doing nothing. For example, imagine that liberals want to build a bridge that conservatives think is unnecessary pork. Compromising on half a bridge is dumber than no bridge or a whole bridge. Cheering the "bipartisan" or "centrist" nature of the half-bridge deal doesn't change the foolishness of it. Worse, liberals understand that they can pocket the concessions and benefits (union jobs, expanding the baseline budget, etc.) and come back the next year to demand more money to finish the project. As Milton Friedman said, "Nothing is so permanent as a temporary government program."

This dynamic doesn't just apply to public works but to a whole raft of market-distorting policies, from subsidies for higher education and health care to entitlements. The political priority for liberals is to establish the principle that there is a role for government in X and then keep insisting that the supposedly worthy initiative is underfunded. Look at where Democrats are today on health care. A couple years ago the Affordable Care Act was a bold progressive reform. Now it's too conservative for Democrats eager to do away with private health insurance and establish "Medicare for All."

What makes this dialectic so frustrating for conservatives is that whenever government regulations lead to higher prices—in college tuition, energy prices, rent, etc.—the champions of further regulation blame the free market for failing to fix the problem.

This seems worth bearing in mind as President Trump and Democratic leaders hammer out an agreement to spend $2 trillion on infrastructure before agreeing on where the money will come from or how to spend it. The president would like to put it on the nation's credit card. The Democrats have no insurmountable objection to that, but they'd like to goad Trump into agreeing (before the 2020 election) to tax hikes to pay for it.

However it's spent, or paid for, you can be sure that before the last dollar goes out the door, Democrats will be insisting again that infrastructure is underfunded and that the private sector is inadequate to the task.

I don't really have a solution, in part because I'm not sure there is one. And as the saying goes, a problem without a solution isn't a problem, it's simply a fact. This is the nature of politics generally, and not just for conservatives. After all, there are many issues where liberals start from a position of "No" and end up being forced to accept a compromise they don't like.

But, as a conservative of the Hayekian variety, I see a particular threat in how some on the right are responding to this inconvenient truth: They want to get in on the action.

Historically, the primary conservative argument against top-down planning wasn't so much that politicians and bureaucrats aren't smart enough to run the economy from some Washington-based control room, but that it simply can't be done. Policymakers suffer from what Hayek called "the knowledge problem." The market is too complex, with too many variables on the ground, for anyone to manage things from above.

On some parts of the right, the argument is changing. The new proponents of "economic nationalism" no longer think elites can't run the economy—just that liberal elites, or "globalists," can't run it. Part of this stems from the often-paranoid conviction that liberal elites have brilliantly rigged the system in their favor. So, the thinking goes, if they can pull that off, so can we.

It doesn't work that way. Such thinking is wrong regardless of the partisan agenda behind it, which is why Hayek dedicated his book "The Road to Serfdom" to "the Socialists of All Parties."

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online *and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.*

MILITARY

From Page 10

said that their number has varied between 20,000 and 40,000, "including between 2,000 and 2,500 who are exclusively assigned to track and persecute" members of Venezuela's armed forces.

About Mexico's President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's "neutrality" in Venezuela's political crisis, Guaido said that, "We expect more" from Mexico. He added that although Mexico "does not want to take a position on whether to support the Venezuelan constitution's directive" allowing the president of the National Assembly to become interim president in charge of calling new elections, "We would at least expect their support for the cause" of democracy and human rights in Venezuela.

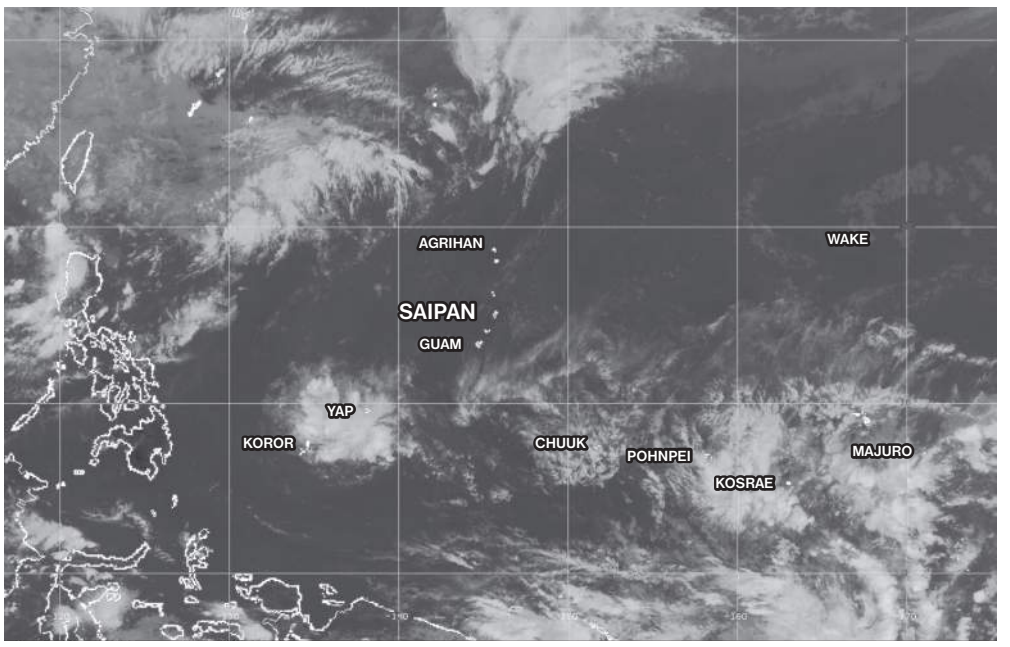
As I'm writing this, it's not clear whether Guaido's military uprising will succeed or whether it will be crushed, its leaders arrested or even killed. But one thing is clear: A military rebellion against a full-blown dictatorship can be called many things, but calling it a "coup attempt" is wrong.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.
89º / 77º	89º / 78º	89º / 78º	89º / 78º	89º / 78º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:23 AM, MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows a few showers moving through the Marianas waters, mainly south of Guam. The VAD wind profile indicates east-southeast winds of 11 to 16 knots through the lowest 7 thousand feet of the air. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet composed of a 3 to 5 foot east-northeast trade-wind swell with just a trace of north swell and wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Cloudy	86° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	66° / 59°
Beijing	Cloudy	81° / 52°
Hong Kong	Rain	77° / 72°
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 69°
London	Cloudy	57° / 48°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	66° / 57°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 81°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°
New York	Mostly Sunny	72° / 54°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	72° / 59°
Paris	Cloudy	63° / 50°
Busan	Cloudy	70° / 55°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	66° / 45°
Salem	Sunny	87° / 61°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	60° / 50°
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	70° / 48°
Tokyo	Sunny	72° / 55°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	82° / 62°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:20 AM	LOW TIDE	0.99
8:24 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.88
3:33 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.30
10:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.94

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:51 AM	6:35 PM
Wednesday	5:51 AM	6:36 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:36 PM
Friday	5:50 AM	6:36 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:37 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:33 AM	8:45 PM	-
Wednesday	8:25 AM	9:43 PM	-
Thursday	9:21 AM	10:42 PM	-
Friday	10:20 AM	11:38 PM	-
Saturday	11:20 AM	-	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 4, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	9:56am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 5, 6
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:55am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:10am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:12am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:55pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	00:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Happy Mother's Day

Dear Mom…

Since the day I was small
'Till the day I became tall
Since I began understanding things.
Till the day I got my own wings
Your love has never fallen short
You have been my only support
I want to hold you tight and
Hug you I just want to
Say thank you.

What Mother Means

Mother is such a simple word but to me there's meaning seldom heard. For everything I am today my mother's love showed me the way. ***—Karl Fuchs***

TOP FACTS ABOUT MOM

1. Mom always worry when they lose sight of us
2. Mom loves us for what we are
3. Mom knows what's better because she has a rich life experience

Get a chance at winning a giveaway gift for your mom
Check conditions inside "Interview of the Month"

Islander Way of Life

By ALEEZA CASTRO
6TH GRADE STUDENT, FRANCISCO M. SABLAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Life on Saipan is one of a kind,
We are very fortunate to have the Pacific Ocean
Inviting everyone to be out there in the sea shore.

Saturday and Sunday are the best days
To go to the beach.
We, islanders cannot refuse and resist
The charming magnificent enormous ocean.

Treat yourself with chicken kelaguen, titiyas, chicken chalakeles
Or ahu tuna poke,
If you want your tummy full, never miss chamorro bisteak, pot roast,
Kadun pika or escabeche,
But of course, without fina 'denne, our taste bud will be in gloom.

Save room for dessert that is what my Mom's advance notice,
Apigigi, guyuria, bunelos, potu or ahu
Wow! Where can I put all these sweets
Well, take a small portion so you can devour it all.

But that is not the ending
Here's my piece of advice to everyone
Warning: Too much fruit causes …. H E A L T H
Mango, coconut, breadfruit and local banana are tempting organic
Local produce.

Hafa 'Adai jan tirow!
Listen…take it or leave it,
These will help you live a longer bubbly life and bring you the blissful and cheerful Taste of the Marianas.

THANK YOU

The *Saipan Tribune*'s YoungStyle Section is published with the assistance of the following:

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ALEX MEGINO
Contributors

INTERVIEW OF THE MONTH

Steve Jang

Owner Café Ete
President/CEO, H&C International, LLC

By ALEX MEGINO
9 Grade Student, KHS

Q: What future did your parents envision for you and were you able to fulfil it?

A: My parents wanted me to be in business and help them at their grocery market and pizza stores. However, I wanted to go to medical school. Going to medical school was tough and hard and so I gave up and eventually started my own business.

Q: How did your interest in chess began?

A: My interest in chess sparked when I was 9th grade in Canada. I started having good matches with my Math teacher and winning. Also, winning county championship in California was sweet, too.

Q: About two years ago, you opened a great coffee place in the heart of Garapan along Beach Road—Ete-Cafe. What do you project this place to be? What does the word "Ete" mean?

A: Ete is a French word for summer. Saipan's weather is warm and hot and so I named it Ete Café. Ete Café opened on March 16, 2018, just little over one year.

I'd like to see Ete Café be a quiet cozy place where people can sit down and enjoy chatting or doing their work. Ambience was created so that all age groups like it.

Q: What's common between coffee and chess?

A: Hmm…interesting question! I am not sure what's common between chess and coffee but if I were to take a guess, I would love to have a beautiful checkmate while having coffee and talk trash! Hahaha.

Q: What's your favorite chess piece and what chess piece best describes you?

A: My favorite chess piece is the queen. The queen is the most powerful piece on the chessboard. Does the queen piece best describe me? Hmm…I can't …. many days and times, I feel like a pawn.

Q: What is your most memorable chess match?

A: My most memorable chess match was in Canada and state county high school championship in Southern California, representing my own school. I beat the top senior players from other high schools. That felt good!

Q: How much time do you need to understand the strengths and abilities of your chess opponent?

A: Understanding the strength and abilities of ones rival is very important. Recollecting different moves and defensive moves is always a plus.

Q: What's your corporate move in a situation when you are losing the game?

A: I don't have a corporate move when I am down a piece. However, my plan and strategy is not to trade pieces with my opponent. I become very defensive, make sure all the pieces are protected from one another.

Q: On whose side is the truth, black or white?

A: Of course, I like white better. You get to move first and have the advantage of attacking. I tend to be defensive when I hold black side.

Q: what is your favorite quote?

A: Hmmm…I have many favorite quotes but if I were to take one … I like to quote from Robert H. Schuller …

"Problems are not stop signs, they are guidelines."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Steve Jang, owner Café Ete and president/CEO of H&C International, LLC, poses with YoungStyle contributor Alex Megino.

The Last Goodbye

By KLIN DELEON GUERRERO
6TH GRADE STUDENT, FRANCISCO M. SABLAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Once upon a time, there was a family of four that lived on the island of Saipan. The family was on the verge of getting into the middle of a war between two clans. The clans were very powerful. They are the Kontoc and Fetuma clans. It was a sunny bright breezy day. The family was getting ready to go to the beach. When they all go to the beach their parents would not stop arguing. The children were frightened and confused they wanted to ask them what was wrong. They were so hesitant to ask their parents for the fear of getting screamed at as well. They called off going to the beach and went back to their house. The kids were really disappointed. In an instant, they heard gunshots and loud bangs. The parents went out to check what was making the loud noises. There were a bunch of people in black and grey shooting at other people on the other side while they were shooting at them too. When some men died, there would be more men coming in, it was like an endless cycle of mass murder. It was a horrendous scene, and the two kids peeked and saw it all. They were traumatized with what happened. They just hid as much as they can so they will not be killed.

Finally, when the gunshots slowly faded away, it became so serene. But then one man from each side appeared from a group of men armed with guns and knives. I heard Papa whispered loudly to Mama that those men were the chiefs of the two clans. Our parents realized that our house was located in their shooting zone. After she heard her Papa say that we need to leave now before they will start again shooting. We gathered what we could carry and left immediately. While we were leaving, Mama and Papa were shot in the chest right in the heart. I felt the pain they had. Those men just wouldn't stop shooting them even though they knew they were already dead. I ran and scraped my knee falling into my father's arms, and saying goodbye. "Goodbye Mama and Papa I would always love you," as I say those words I turn around to see my only brother and sister laying on the ground next to me with blood splattered on my leg. After gathering my dead family members one by one, I gasped and hugged them. I closed my eyes and ignored the gunshots, the screaming, the blood.

Suddenly, I opened my eyes, I felt the pain on my back. I coughed out blood, turned around and gasped my last breath. All I say is, "I guess, this is the end." My spirit leaves and floats above the war of hate and rage, leaving everything behind, to go be reunited with my beloved family.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

Inside Ete Café, how many CD's are heart-shaped?

- 1st five persons will receive $20 cash
- Ten persons with the right answer will receive a FREE drink gift certificate

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

YOUR ANSWER _____

Answers should be submitted directly to Ete Café in a closed envelope.

Parents @ Play: Screen-free fun for everyone

By ARMIN BROTT AND SAMANTHA FEUSS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

In our there's-an-app-for-that world, where almost everything beeps, talks, or lights up, it's sometimes hard to imagine that humans somehow managed to have fun for hundreds of years before electricity, batteries, and screens. Yet it's true. And Screen-Free Week (April 29-May 5) is the perfect time to give your family a taste of the good old days. Here are some of our screen-free faves. You'll find more ideas at https://www.screenfree.org/

Push (Ravensburger)

One player lays out up to three piles of cards (which are both numbered and colored). Players then add cards to the stacks, but aren't allowed to repeat a color or number that's already in the stack. The more you add, the higher your potential points. But if you push your luck and get to a point where you can't play a card, you start losing points. Scoring is a little complicated at first, but the game moves quickly and will keep everyone engaged. For 2-6 players, ages 8+. $12.99. https://www.ravensburger.us

Push is a fun card game where you ear points for playing cards, but lose them if you push your luck too far.

PHOTOS BY TNS

Crochet animals are great for crochet fans (or someone who's interested in learning) and include everything you need to make adorable cats, dogs, horses, safari animals and characters from Disney, Star Wars, Peanuts and Marvel.

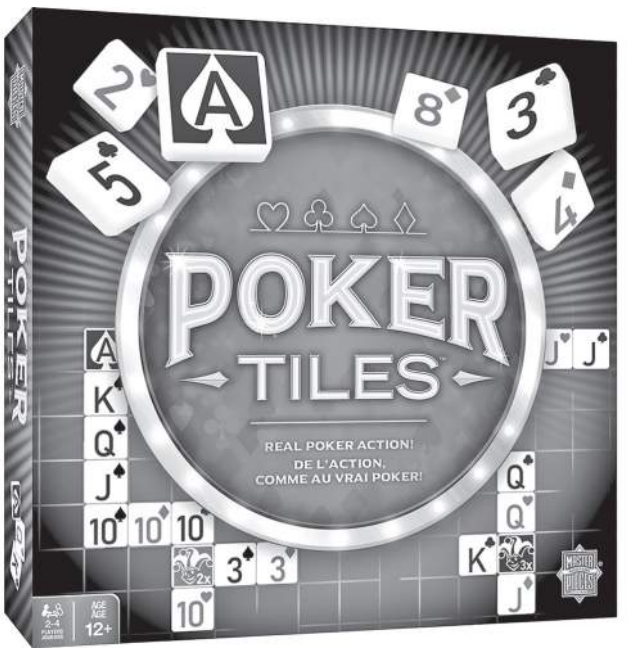
Crochet Animals (Thunder Bay Books)

If you're a crochet fan (or you or your child would like to learn), you'll love these adorable kits. Each one comes with a detailed instruction book with pics and illustrations that will guide you through making ten projects — and enough materials (including yarn and needles) to make at least two of those projects. Choose from cats, dogs, horses, safari animals, and characters from Disney, Star Wars, Peanuts, and Marvel. Prices range from about $17 to $25. https://www.thunderbaybooks.com/

Poker Tiles (Master Pieces)

Poker and Scrabble don't seem like they'd go together very well, but once you play this game, you'll wonder why no one thought of it sooner. And you get the best of both — the strategy of collecting tiles to come up with the biggest score and the excitement of poker. For 2-4 players, ages 12+. Under $25. https://www.masterpiecesinc.com

Poker Tiles combines the excitement of poker with the strategy of Scrabble.



Mini Tarts Pastry Set includes almost everything you need to bake delicious (and beautiful) pastries.

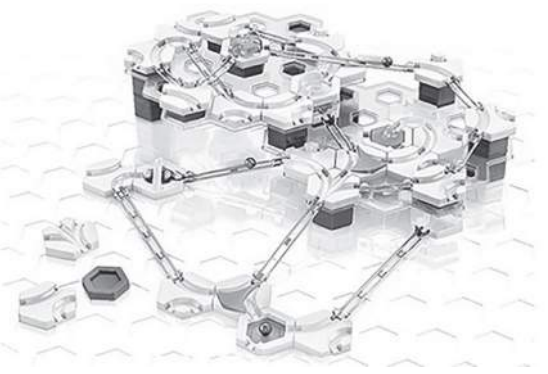
Mini Tarts Pastry Set (Real Cooking Kids)

Getting hungry? This (almost) complete baking kit includes pastry dough ingredients, a rolling pin, pastry bags, dough cutter, tart maker, and complete instructions. All you need to do is add eggs, butter, and your own unique artistic flair and pop your creations into the oven. The non-edible components are durable and you'll be able to use them to make other treats. Ages 6+, but adult supervision is definitely required. Under $50. http://realcookingkids.com/

Wroom (Quercetti)

Wroom vehicles are so sleek and beautiful to look at that you may not want to touch them. But when you finally give in to temptation, you'll be glad you did. Made for toddlers and preschoolers (who won't have any problem jumping in and playing right away), Wroom vehicles are colorful, sturdy, and fun to "drive." The removable/washable wheels are made of EVA, so your vehicle can go indoors or out. For ages 1-4. Under $20. https://www.quercettistore.com.

Wroom vehicles are so sleek and beautiful to look at that you may not want to touch them. But when you finally give in to temptation, you'll be glad you did.



GraviTrax is an interactive track system that lets you design and build race tracks that utilize gravity, magnetism, and kinetics to launch – and control – metal "gravity spheres."

GraviTrax (Ravensburger)

If you haven't discovered GraviTrax, you're truly missing something special. This interactive track system lets you design and build race tracks that utilize gravity, magnetism, and kinetics that let you launch — and control — your metal marbles (which they like to call "gravity spheres"). Yes, there are instructions, but you and your young builder will have a lot more fun experimenting and building your own tracks. The Starter Set (under $60) is a great place to start. And you can up the fun quotient by adding additional track or purchasing expansion packs (mostly $10-18), including a scoop, trampoline, tunnel, catapult, and more. https://www.ravensburger.us

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

RIDDLE SEARCH – MATH FUN

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: **What sea creature knows how to add?**

ADD
ARITHMETIC
CALCULATOR
DIVIDE
EVEN
FIFTY
FOUR
HALF
HUNDRED
LESS
MORE
MULTIPLY
NINE
NUMBER
REMAINDER
SIXTY
SUBTRACT
TEN
TWO
UNIT
WHOLE

A	R	E	D	N	I	A	M	E	R
A	R	N	W	H	O	L	E	M	O
E	N	I	N	Y	A	T	W	O	T
M	U	L	T	I	P	L	Y	R	A
L	N	X	O	H	N	C	F	E	L
E	I	T	O	U	M	O	I	D	U
S	T	P	M	L	U	E	F	I	C
S	U	B	T	R	A	C	T	V	L
N	E	V	E	U	S	D	Y	I	A
R	H	U	N	D	R	E	D	D	C

Riddle answer: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ - _ _ _ _ _ .

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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Time off	L _ _ _ _	Use a loom	W _ _ _ _
2. Counterfeiter	_ _ _ G _ _	Previous	_ _ _ M _ _
3. Mandy or Roger	_ _ _ R _	Bullwinkle, e.g.	_ _ _ S _
4. Loose coins	_ _ _ _ G _	Coincidental	_ _ _ _ C _
5. Bush	_ _ _ _ B	Shoulder movement	_ _ _ _ G
6. Wee cat	K _ _ _ _ _	Hand warmer	M _ _ _ _ _
7. Babysitter	_ _ _ N _	First Lady Reagan	_ _ _ C _
8. Professional	_ _ _ E _ _	Transmit abroad	_ _ _ O _ _
9. Swiss song	Y _ _ _ _	Runway walker	M _ _ _ _
10. Lure	_ _ _ _ T	Musical pace	_ _ _ _ O

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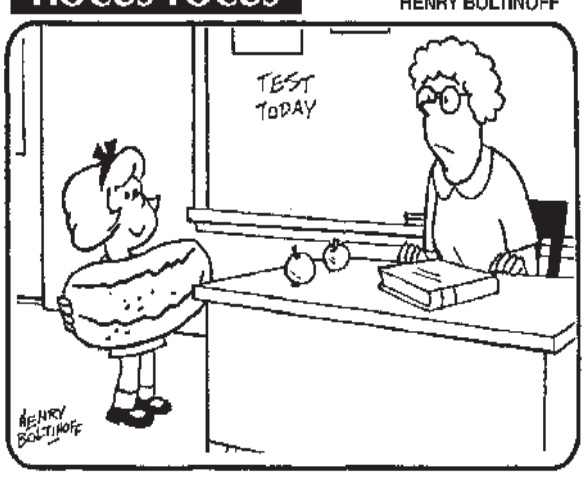
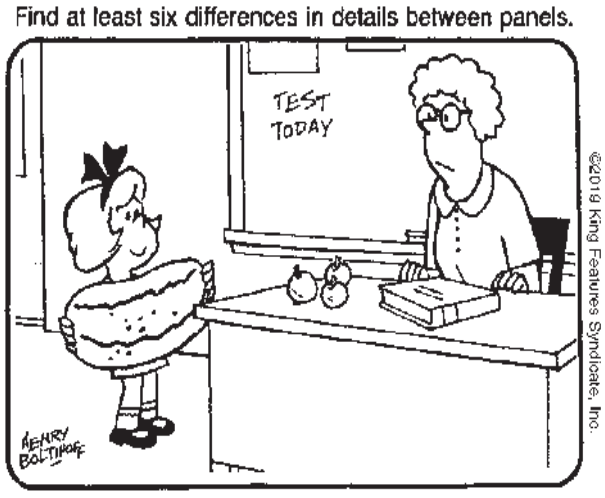
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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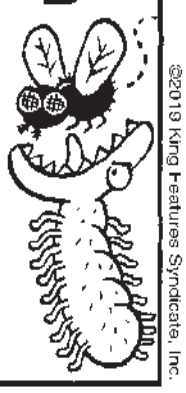
Differences: 1. Girl's bow is bigger. 2. Socks are different. 3. Teacher's dress has buttons. 4. Extra apple is on desk. 5. Blackboard is smaller. 6. Girl's left hand is shown.

RIDDLE CARD

1. Who was the greatest actor in the Bible?
2. What key is the hardest to turn?
3. What goes up and never goes down?
4. What has 18 legs and catches flies?
5. What must one do to have soft hands?



Answers: 1. Samson. He brought down the house. 2. A donkey. 3. Your age. 4. A baseball team. 5. Nothing.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

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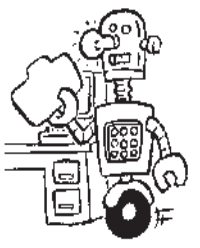
F	B	S	R	E	K	A	E	P	S	R	K	S	P
L	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	E	R	E	E	A
O	A	F	O	D	E	S	K	T	E	L	Y	L	P
O	B	T	N	K	I	R	N	N	I	P	B	B	E
R	I	W	I	M	C	I	N	F	E	W	O	A	R
M	N	A	T	A	R	A	D	N	E	L	A	C	S
A	E	R	O	P	C	H	S	R	E	K	R	A	M
T	T	E	R	S	H	C	O	E	M	O	D	E	M



CHEMICAL CONFUSION! That young genius Jimmy A. Chiever is shown here creating a new chemical compound he calls "HIJKLMNO." Can you guess what he's really mixing up?

Answer: "HIJKLMNO" is really WATER (H to O, or H_2O).

CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

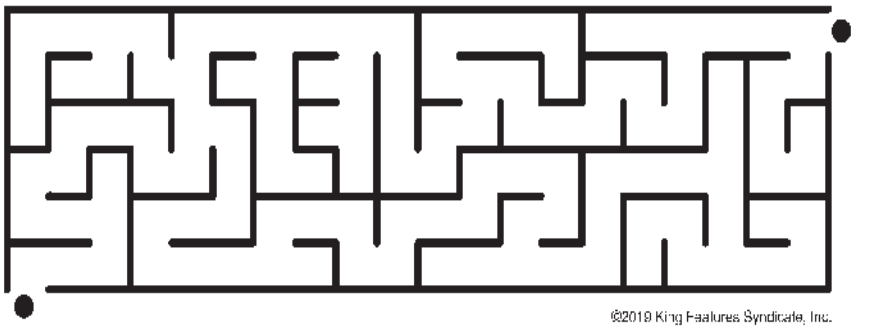
Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Rage, rags, rats; rate, rots, rote, robe, robs.

THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE ... TODAY!

Hidden in the above diagram are 21 words associated with things you might find in a "home office" today They can be found by reading up or down, side to side, or diagonally. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the words you're looking for:

Bookcase	Files	Papers
Cabinet	Floor mat	Pens
Cables	Keyboard	Printer
Calendar	Maps	Scale
Chairs	Markers	Scanner
Computer	Modem	Software
Desk	Monitor	Speakers

Kids' Maze



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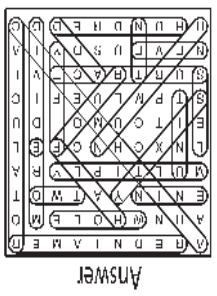
Kids' Maze Solution

Even Exchange answers

1. Leave, Weave		6. Kitten, Mitten	
2. Forger, Former		7. Nanny, Nancy	
3. Moore, Moose		8. Expert, Export	
4. Change, Chance		9. Yodel, Model	
5. Shrub, Shrug		10. Tempt, Tempo	

Puzzles4Kids Answer



Riddle Answer:
An octo-plus.

Business

US threatens to hike tariffs on $200B of Chinese imports

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump raised pressure on China on Sunday, threatening to hike tariffs on $200 billion worth of Chinese goods in a tweet that sent financial markets swooning.

Trump's comments, delivered on Twitter, came as a Chinese delegation was scheduled to resume talks in Washington on Wednesday aimed at resolving a trade war that has shaken investors and cast gloom over the world economy.

Trump turned up the heat by saying he would raise import taxes on $200 billion in Chinese products to 25% from 10% on Friday.

The Wall Street Journal, citing unidentified sources, said China's government was considering canceling this week's talks. Beijing has responded to previous U.S. threats by saying it wouldn't negotiate under pressure.

Stock markets fell on the news. The future for the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 1.9%. The Shanghai Composite index plunged 5.3% while the Hang Seng in Hong Kong sank 3.6%. Japan's markets were closed for a holiday.

Trump had twice pushed back deadlines—in January and March—to raise the tariffs in a bid to buy more time for a negotiated settlement. But on Sunday, Trump, who has called himself a "tariff man," said he's losing patience. "The Trade Deal with China continues, but too slowly, as they attempt to renegotiate. No!" Trump tweeted.

In his tweets, Trump also threatened to slap tariffs on another $325 billion in Chinese imports, covering everything China ships annually to the United States.

The two countries are locked in a high-stakes dispute over China's push to establish itself as a technological super power. The U.S. charges that China is resorting to predatory tactics—including cybertheft and forcing foreign companies to hand over technology—in a drive to establish Chinese companies as world leaders in advanced industries such as robotics and electric vehicles.

The administration has repeatedly suggested that the negotiators are making progress. A month ago, Trump said that the two countries were "rounding the turn" and predicted that "something monumental" would be achieved in the next few weeks.

But last week, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin seemed to temper expectations, suggesting that Washington was willing to "move on" if it can't get the deal it wants.

A substantive deal would require China to rethink the way it pursues its economic ambitions, abandoning or scaling back subsidies to its companies, easing up on the pressure for foreign companies to share trade secrets, and giving them more access to the Chinese market.

Philip Levy, senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a White House economist under President George W. Bush, said the talks are too complicated for Trump's high-pressure tactics to work. "The president treats this like we're haggling over the price of a used car," Levy said.

Trump has made a priority of shaking up American trade policy.

As a candidate for the presidency, Trump raged repeatedly about alleged Chinese perfidy—so much so that a video mashup of him spitting out the word "China" went viral and collected more than 15 million views on Youtube.com.

Let's make a Brexit deal, UK PM May tells Labour opposition

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Conservative government and opposition Labour Party have a duty to strike a compromise Brexit agreement to end months of political deadlock over Britain's exit from the European Union, Prime Minister Theresa May said Sunday.

Writing in the Mail on Sunday newspaper, May told Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn: "Let's do a deal."

The prospect of a cross-party compromise has alarmed many Conservatives, and May acknowledged that it was "not what I wanted, either."

"But we have to find a way to break the deadlock—and I believe the results of the local elections give fresh urgency to this," she wrote.

The Conservatives are desperate to move forward after losing hundreds of positions in last week's local authority elections. Labour also suffered losses as voters punished both main parties for the Brexit impasse.

Almost three years after Britain voted to leave the EU, the date and terms of Brexit remain uncertain. The U.K.'s departure date has been postponed from March 29 until Oct. 31 because May has been unable to get British lawmakers to approve her divorce deal with the EU.

But suggestions that May's government might make a deal that accepts Labour's demand for close economic ties with the EU have infuriated pro-Brexit Conservatives, who are demanding May's resignation.

"We have to make a change," former Conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith told LBC radio. "The message was loud and clear that, since March 29, people have decided they are absolutely furious with the political class."

Labour Party politicians are wary about making a deal that could be seen as helping the archrival Conservatives deliver Brexit. Many party members and lawmakers want Labour to support a new, second referendum on Britain's EU membership that could reverse voters' 2016 decision to leave.

They point to big gains in the local elections for the anti-Brexit Liberal Democrats and Green Party as evidence the public would welcome a second referendum.

Labour economy spokesman John McDonnell said Sunday the party would "come to an agreement if we can" with the Conservatives.

But he also said the governing party couldn't be trusted, after details of the negotiations appeared in the press.

Asked on BBC television if he trusted May, McDonnell said: "No, sorry, not after this weekend when she's blown the confidentiality" of the talks.

He said Labour would only agree to a Brexit deal that included a permanent customs union with the EU to avoid barriers to trade. The government wants a looser relationship with the bloc that would let Britain strike new trade deals around the world.

McDonnell also said the Conservative Party's leadership machinations have made negotiations difficult.

"We're dealing with a very unstable government," McDonnell said. "It's (like) trying to enter into a contract with a company that's going into administration and the people who are going to take over are not willing to fulfil that contract. We can't negotiate like that."

Nation

Student who charged campus gunman remembered as hero

WAYNESVILLE, N.C. (AP)—Family, hundreds of friends and a military honor guard on Sunday remembered a North Carolina college student credited with saving classmates by rushing a gunman firing inside their lecture hall.

Riley Howell, 21, was fatally shot Tuesday while tackling the gunman accused of killing Howell and one other person and wounding four more at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Howell has been called a hero.

"A man I never knew is now a man I'll never forget," the Rev. Robert Blackburn remembered one young man's sign reading as Howell's body was returned earlier this week to his hometown in the Blue Ridge Mountains. His memorial service was held Sunday at a 1,900-seat auditorium on the grounds of a Methodist retreat on Lake Junaluska.

Blackburn opened the service by asking participants to remember the horror of the shooting, pray for the other victims, and offer compassion for the family of the man arrested in the case, Trystan Andrew Terrell.

AP

Parents of Riley Howell, Natalie Henry-Howell, center left, stands next to Thomas Howell, comforting their son Teddy, after a memorial service for Riley Howell in Lake Junaluska, N.C., Sunday, May 5, 2019.

Terrell, a 22-year-old former UNC-Charlotte student, has been charged with first-degree murder, first-degree attempted murder and other offenses in connection with the attack.

A military honor guard outside the auditorium stood at attention as a trumpeter played through open doors. Howell had been enrolled in a second semester of college ROTC courses at UNC-Charlotte, though he wasn't among those pursuing a career as a military officer, said Lt. Col. Chunka Smith, who runs the school's Army ROTC program.

Howell's mother received a folded American flag from a military honor guard, which came on stage during the memorial.

Howell was a big-hearted, affectionate person with an adventurous streak who loved Star Wars and superhero tales, his siblings recounted. Riley "unapologetically lived as who he was" and set an example to be "bigger than the small things this world wants us to be hung up on," said his sister Iris.

Pilots made runway change before jet hit Florida river

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Pilots of a chartered jet that ran into a river at a Florida military base made a last-minute change to the runway where they would make a landing, a federal investigator said Sunday.

The pilots on the Miami Air International plane requested the change to air traffic controllers shortly before landing at Naval Air Station Jacksonville Friday night.

The 9,000-foot-long runway where the Boeing 737 landed was essentially limited to 7,800 feet since there was a wire barrier set up to recover Navy aircraft in instances they couldn't land on a carrier during training, said Bruce Landsberg, vice chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.

"We don't know what they were thinking or why they made that choice," Landsberg said at a news conference. "That will be one of the things we look to find out."

Landsberg didn't elaborate on the significance of the runway change, but said it would be a focus of investigation.

NTSB investigators said they hope a cockpit voice recorder helps them answer that question, but they have been unable to recover it yet since the part of the plane where it's located is still underwater in the St. Johns River. Investigators also plan to interview the pilots, Landsberg said.

Investigators have retrieved the flight data recorder.

Landsberg said the plane recently had been in maintenance, and logs showed a left-hand thrust reverser that was inoperative.

Thrust reversers are used to divert thrust from the engine, but they typically aren't used in calculating a plane's performance, Landsberg said.

According to a Purdue University College of Engineering description , reverse thrust can be used to help an aircraft come to a stop.

"We will be looking very carefully at the maintenance of the aircraft in the several weeks prior," Landsberg said.

There were no serious injuries on the flight from a military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, although almost two dozen of the 143 passengers and crew members sought medical attention for minor injuries.

Capt. Michael Connor, the base's commanding officer, said all passengers had left the base Sunday on their way to their scheduled destinations.

Some aircraft will be allowed to depart the base and be relocated so that pilots can continue with their training, but Naval Air Station Jacksonville will essentially be closed until the plane is removed from the river, Connor said.

The NTSB investigators are still deciding whether to relocate the plane off the base, which would require the use of a barge.

"How the aircraft is positioned now certainly gives you limitations on a good thorough assessment," said NTSB investigator John Lovell. "We are not aware of the extent of the damage under the waterline because it can't be seen."

Asia

Kim oversees missile firing drills

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean state media on Sunday showed leader Kim Jong Un observing live-fire drills of long-range multiple rocket launchers and what appeared to be a new short-range ballistic missile, a day after South Korea expressed concern that the launches were a violation of an inter-Korean agreement to cease all hostile acts.

Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over Saturday's drills and stressed that his front-line troops should keep a "high alert posture" and enhance combat ability to "defend the political sovereignty and economic self-sustenance of the country."

AP

This Saturday, May 4, 2019, file photo provided by the North Korean government shows North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, equipped with binoculars, observing tests of different weapons systems, in North Korea.

The weapons launches were a likely sign of Pyongyang's growing frustration at stalled diplomatic talks with Washington meant to provide coveted sanctions relief in return for nuclear disarmament. They also highlighted the fragility of the detente between the Koreas, which in a military agreement reached last September vowed to completely cease "all hostile acts" against each other in land, air and sea.

South Korea said it's "very concerned" about North Korea's weapons launches, calling them a violation of the agreements to reduce animosities between the countries. The statement, issued after an emergency meeting Saturday of top officials at the presidential Blue House in Seoul, also urged North Korea to stop committing acts that would raise military tensions and join efforts to resume nuclear diplomacy.

» Tells troops to be alert

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stressed that Washington still wants to strike a deal with Kim to get the North Korea to denuclearize. He told Fox News Sunday and ABC's "This Week" that the weapons launched were short-range and not intercontinental ballistic missiles.

"They landed in the water east of North Korea and didn't present a threat to the United States or South Korea or Japan," he said on ABC.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff initially said on Saturday that the North launched a single missile from the site near the coastal town of Wonsan but later said in a statement that "several projectiles" had been fired.

In its updated assessment on Sunday, the JCS did not confirm whether the North fired a ballistic missile, but said a "new tactical guided weapon" was among the weapons tested by the North, which also included 240 millimeter- and 300 millimeter-caliber multiple rocket launchers. The JCS said the various projectiles flew from 70 to 240 kilometers (44 to 149 miles) before splashing into sea.

Brunei death penalty moratorium applied to new Shariah laws

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Brunei's sultan has said a moratorium on capital punishment is in effect for new Shariah criminal laws including stoning people for gay sex and adultery that sparked an international outcry.

The United Nations has called the laws implemented April 3 "draconian" while the U.S. and several other countries have urged Brunei to halt its plans. Celebrities including George Clooney, Elton John and Ellen DeGeneres have rallied for a boycott of nine hotels in the U.S. and Europe linked to Brunei.

Even before 2014, homosexuality was already punishable in Brunei by a jail term of up to 10 years. The new laws say those found guilty of gay sex can be stoned to death or whipped. Adulterers risk death by stoning too, while thieves face amputation of a right hand on their first offense and a left foot on their second. The new laws apply to children and foreigners, even if they are not Muslim.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah said Sunday in a speech to mark the start of Ramadan that he was aware of the "many questions and misperceptions" over the penalties provided for under new sections of Brunei's Shariah Penal Code, but stressed that there should be no fear.

Brunei has had a "de facto moratorium" on capital punishment for over two decades and "this will also be applied to cases under the (Shariah laws) which provides a wider scope for remission," he said. The announcement came as a surprise but appeared aimed at deflecting criticism that Islamic criminal laws are cruel.

"We are conscious of the fact that misperceptions may cause apprehension. However, we believe that once these have been cleared, the merit of the law will be evident," the sultan said. Sultan Hassanal said Brunei will also ratify the U.N. Convention Against Torture to show its commitment to human rights.

"Both the common law and the Shariah law aim to ensure peace and harmony of the country. They are also crucial in protecting the morality and decency of the public as well as respecting the privacy of individuals," he added.

In an immediate reaction, Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland on Monday hailed the moratorium on the death penalty but also urged Brunei to revoke other harsh punishments such as amputation and flogging. Brunei is a member of the Commonwealth.

Sultan Hassanal instituted the Shariah Penal Code in 2014 to bolster the influence of Islam in the oil-rich monarchy of around 430,000 people, two-thirds of whom are Muslim. There has been no vocal opposition to the new penalties in Brunei, where the sultan rules as head of state with full executive authority. Public criticism of his policies is extremely rare in the country.

World

At least 40 dead in jet crash in Russia

MOSCOW (AP)—A Russian airliner burst into flames while making an emergency landing at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport Sunday evening, and at least 40 people died, officials said.

The Sukhoi SSJ100 operated by national airline Aeroflot had 73 passengers and five crew members on board when it touched down and sped down a runway spewing huge flames and black smoke.

Elena Markovskaya, a spokeswoman for Russia's Investigative Committee, said early Monday that 41 people were killed. But Health Minister Veronika Skvortsova said later that 38 survived, implying the death toll was 40.

The victims included one member of the crew and at least two teenagers, according to the Investigative Committee.

Video showed desperate passengers leaping out of the plane onto inflatable evacuation slides and staggering across the airport's tarmac and grass, some holding luggage.

The airport said in a statement that the plane, which had taken off from Sheremetyevo Airport for the northern city of Murmansk, turned back for unspecified technical reasons and made a hard landing that started the fire.

Video broadcast later on Russian television showed flames bursting from the jetliner's underside as it lands and then bounces. The plane apparently did not have time to jettison fuel before the emergency landing, news reports said.

The SSJ100, also known as the Superjet, is a two-engine regional jet put into service in 2011 with considerable fanfare as a signal that Russia's troubled aerospace industry was on the rise.

However, the plane's reputation was troubled after defects were found in some horizontal stabilizers.

The plane's manufacturer, Sukhoi Civil Aircraft, said the plane in Sunday's accident had received maintenance at the beginning of April. Aeroflot said the pilot had some 1,400 hours of experience flying the plane.

The plane is largely used in Russia as a replacement for outdated Soviet-era aircraft, but also has been used by airlines in other countries, including Armenia and Mexico.

This is the second fatal accident involving a SSJ100. In 2012, a demonstration flight in Indonesia struck a mountain, killing all 45 aboard.

Venezuelans hold vigil for those killed in street clashes

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Led by Roman Catholic priests in white robes, several hundred Venezuelans said prayers Sunday at a candle-lit vigil for at least five people killed in street clashes following a failed opposition call for a military uprising.

Opposition leader Juan Guaidó was unable to attend because of meetings, a representative told the crowd at the vigil. He did not elaborate, though he noted that some members of the opposition-controlled National Assembly were at the memorial service. A few police officers watched from a distance.

Some of those who gathered waved Venezuelan flags and chanted "Freedom," but the mood was muted after the major setback for the opposition in its long campaign to topple President Nicolás Maduro.

Venezuelans who want political change must keep protesting in the streets, said David Manrique, a 20-year-old student.

"A lot of people have had faith in the political process, which hasn't brought results, or at least the results that we want," he said.

The U.S.-backed Guaidó declared himself interim president in January, saying Maduro's re-election last year was rigged and one in a series of increasingly authoritarian steps since he replaced the late Hugo Chávez in 2013 as president. Venezuela, meanwhile, has been in sharp decline for years, suffering from hyperinflation and shortages of food and medicine that the opposition blames on state corruption and mismanagement by the socialist administration.

For his part, Maduro says U.S. sanctions aimed at forcing him from power are taking a toll on the economy, and his government has accused Guaidó of fomenting violence when he appealed to the military last week to switch sides to the opposition. The armed forces did not heed the call, and those killed in ensuing clashes between police and protesters on Tuesday and Wednesday included two teenage boys.

Maduro's government has not moved to arrest Guaidó, possibly reflecting its own weakness in the face of intense U.S. pressure not to move against the opposition leader.

Israel steps up strikes as Gaza rocket attacks intensify

JERUSALEM (AP)—Gaza militants fired hundreds of rockets into southern Israel on Sunday, killing at least four Israelis and bringing life to a standstill across the region in the bloodiest fighting since a 2014 war. As Israel pounded Gaza with airstrikes, the Palestinian death toll rose to 23, including two pregnant women and two babies.

The bloodshed marked the first Israeli fatalities from rocket fire since the 2014 war. With Palestinian militants threatening to send rockets deeper into Israel and Israeli reinforcements massing near the Gaza frontier, the fighting showed no signs of slowing down.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spent most of the day huddled with his Security Cabinet. Late Sunday, the Cabinet instructed the army to "continue its attacks and to stand by" for further orders. Israel also claimed to have killed a Hamas commander involved in transferring Iranian funds to the group.

Israel and Hamas, an Islamic militant group that seeks Israel's destruction, have fought three wars since Hamas violently seized control of Gaza from Western-backed Palestinian forces in 2007. They have fought numerous smaller battles, most recently two rounds in March.

While lulls in fighting used to last for months or even years, these flare-ups have grown increasingly frequent as a desperate Hamas, weakened by a crippling Egyptian-Israeli blockade imposed 12 years ago, seeks to put pressure on Israel to ease the closure.

The blockade has ravaged Gaza's economy, and a year of Hamas-led protests along the Israeli frontier has yielded no tangible benefits. In March, Hamas faced several days of street protests over the dire conditions.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said in a statement late Sunday that the militant group was "not interested in a new war."

Overdrive

2019 Toyota RAV4: Throwback looks, advanced tech

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

The battle for SUV bragging rights has begun, and like many boasts, it's about posturing at least as much as reality.

Jeep's TV campaign proclaiming, "SUV. These letters used to mean something. Letters earned in backwoods, high hills and step dunes …" is one sign. Toyota's new RAV4 compact SUV is another.

As the number of SUVs on the market mushrooms, automakers will spend billions to make theirs seem different and special. Some will go for sleek looks, luxury, power and handling. Others by offering room for the kids and pets.

The 2019 Toyota RAV4 compact SUV does it with styling and some features intended to evoke a tough and capable image similar to what Jeep's images of military air drops and rock climbers recall.

The RAV4 doesn't have a history of heroic exploits off-road, but that doesn't mean it can't look like it does.

Behind the Wheel 2019 Toyota RAV4 Limited AWD

All-wheel-drive, five-passenger compact SUV

■ Price as tested: $38,989 (excluding destination charge)

■ Rating: Four out of four stars

■ Reasons to buy: Looks, fuel economy, hybrid model

■ Shortcomings: Engine noise; Android Auto not available.

What's new?

The RAV4 was one of the pioneering car-based SUVs, debuting in 1995, a misty past when combining an SUV's height and visibility with the soft ride and fuel economy of a sedan made it rare and special. Today, SUVs with the kind of chassis once reserved for sedans are a dime a dozen. They account for about 50 percent of U.S. vehicle sales, pushing traditional sedans to the brink of extinction.

The RAV4 is in a pitched battle to be America's best-selling non-pickup, a fight it will wage with Nissan and Honda till the last registration slip is signed this year.

In 2019, an SUV with the rugged looks and purposeful engineering of a serious off-roader stands out in the crowd. That makes the new 2019 RAV4's angular looks, flared wheel wells and optional knobby all-terrain tires forerunners of what's likely to be a surge of small SUVS offering off-road design cues, if not the mechanicals to match them.

The 2019 RAV4's looks are an intentional departure from its predecessor's smooth, flowing lines. "It's about the feeling of adventure as much as it is about the experience," a company statement says.

The 2019 RAV4 looks bigger than its sleek, rounded predecessor, but is almost exactly the same size. Once you go more than skin deep, the new SUV offers more options including capable springs and an upgraded all-wheel-drive system, but it is primarily what a generation of happy owners turned to RAV4s for: a safe, fuel efficient alternative to a sedan.

Specifications as tested

■ Engine: 2.5L four-cylinder

■ Power: 203 hp @ 6,600 rpm; 184 lb-ft of torque @ 5,000 rpm

■ Transmission: 8-speed automatic

■ Wheelbase: 105.9 inches

■ Length: 180.9 inches

■ Width: 73.0 inches

■ Height: 67.2 inches

■ Curb Weight: 3,620 pounds

■ Assembled: Aichi, Japan

How much?

Prices for the 2019 Toyota RAV4 start at $25,500 for a front-wheel-drive model. A 203-hp 2.5L four-cylinder engine and eight-speed automatic transmission are standard. Adding all-wheel drive raises the base price to $26,900.

A gasoline-electric hybrid is available starting at $27,700. All RAV4 hybrids have all-wheel drive because the rear axle is powered by an independent electric motor. The hybrid has 219 hp of total power between the e-axle and 2.5L engine. Hybrids use a continuously variable transmission. The RAV's hybrid is rare in the segment. The Rogue is the only competitor to offer one.

The compact SUV class is one of the auto industry's most crowded and competitive

Players include the Chevrolet Equinox, Ford Escape, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Santa Fe, Kia Sportage, Mazda CX-5, Nissan Rogue and Volkswagen Tiguan.

I tested a well-equipped RAV4 Limited AWD with adaptive cruise control; pedestrian detection; automatic front braking; lane departure alert and assist; lane centering; automatic high beams; touch screen; Apple CarPlay; panoramic sun roof; 19-inch chrome wheels; heated steering wheel; heated and ventilated front seats; power tailgate and more.

It stickered at $38,989. All prices exclude destination charges.

RAV4 prices compare well with its competitors.

Competitive base prices

(Excluding destination charges)

(Automatic transmission, all-wheel drive models.)

Toyota RAV4 Limited AWD: $34,900

Chevrolet Equinox AWD Premier 1LZ: $32,900

Ford Escape Titanium AWD: $34,120

Honda CR-V Touring AWD: $34,150

Hyundai Santa Fe Night AWD: $32,050

Kia Sportage SX turbo AWD: $34,990

Mazda CX-5 Grand Touring Reserve AWD: $34,870

Nissan Rogue AWD SL: $32,840

VW Tiguan 4Motion 2.0R SEL R-Line: $34,945

Source: Autotrader

Lots of safety features, high mpg

The RAV4 Limited AWD scored 25 mpg in the city, 33 on the highway and 28 combined in EPA tests. The key combined rating beats every competitor but the Honda CR-V.

The hybrid, which I did not test, rated 41 mpg in the city, 38 on the highway and 40 combined.

The RAV4 uses Toyota's latest platform, which resulted in a 1.2-inch longer wheelbase that contributes to good maneuverability and a comfortable ride.

The steering is responsive, with good on-center feel. The interior is comfortable, trimmed mostly in soft touch materials. The controls are easy to use, with plenty of buttons and dials. Toyota's failure to offer Android Auto to complement its standard Apple CarPlay will disappoint some owners.

Toyota is among the leaders in making advanced driver assistance and safety features standard. Every RAV4 has pedestrian and cyclist detection; lane departure alert and assist; adaptive cruise control; lane centering and automatic high beams. Blind spot alert, which I think is the most useful of all new safety features, is an option on the base model, standard on all others.

Noisy engine, anti-Android

My RAV4 had noticeable engine noise when accelerating, and some engine vibration when running at low rpm to maximize fuel economy.

The audio quality of hands-free phone calls was dodgy.

Toyota's failure to offer Android Auto is unacceptable. All its competitors do, and smartphone integration is a big component of owners' safety and satisfaction.

Other than that, the new RAV4 does everything well, and does it in an attractive package that should please owners, as long as they don't expect backcountry capability matching its rugged looks.

Competitive EPA fuel economy ratings

(Automatic transmission, all-wheel drive models.)

(All vehicles tested with regular gasoline.)

Toyota RAV4 Limited AWD: 27 mpg city/ 33 highway

Chevrolet Equinox AWD Premier 1LZ: 25/30/27

Ford Escape Titanium AWD: 21/27/23

Honda CR-V Touring AWD: 27/33/29

Hyundai Santa Fe Night AWD: 21/2723

Kia Sportage SX turbo AWD: 20/23/21

Mazda CX-5 Grand Touring Reserve AWD: 22/27/24

Nissan Rogue AWD SL: 25/32/27

VW Tiguan 4Motion 2.0R SEL R-Line: 21/29/24

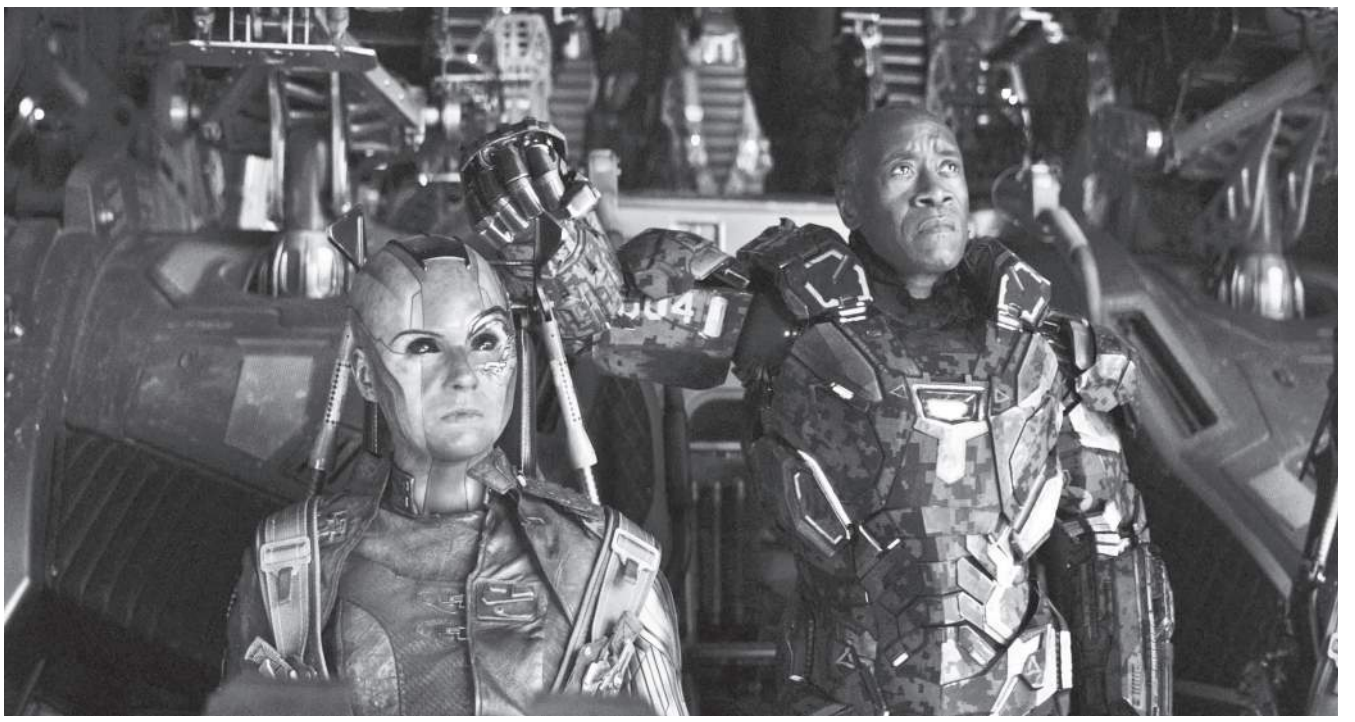
Source: www.fueleconomy.gov

The 2019 Toyota RAV4. TNS

Life & Style

'Avengers Endgame' nears global record with over $2 billion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Avengers: Endgame" continued its global domination at the box office in a second week victory lap that saw the blockbuster cross the $2 billion mark in record time and unseat "Titanic" as the second highest-grossing film ever worldwide. Domestically, newcomers, including thrillers ("The Intruder"), well-reviewed comedies ("Long Shot") or animated family fare ("Uglydolls") were left in the dust to pick up the scraps.



This image released by Disney shows Karen Gillan, left, and Don Cheadle in a scene from "Avengers: Endgame." AP

The Walt Disney Co. estimated Sunday that "Endgame" added $145.8 million from North American theaters and $282.2 million internationally bringing its global total to $2.2 billion. "Endgame" is one of five movies to ever reach that threshold and, not accounting for inflation, is now second worldwide only to "Avatar's" $2.8 billion. "Avatar" reached $2 billion in 47 days of release compared with 11 for "Endgame," although in 2009 the theatrical landscape was different, most notably so in China.

"The sprint to $2 billion is unbelievable. We're in uncharted territory," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for Comscore. "Usually films like this are marathoners."

To reach "Avatar's" global record, however, "Endgame" will have to turn into a marathoner itself and the summer movie season is only going to get more competitive.

Still, "it's got a real chance at getting there," Dergarabedian said.

Domestically, "Endgame," which is still playing on 4,662 screens, scored the second biggest second weekend ever with a sum that would be impressive for any film on opening weekend. Even its 59% drop is notable considering how front-loaded it was. "Endgame" has now grossed $619.7 million in North America, making it the ninth biggest of all time, behind "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

New films entering the marketplace hardly stood a chance, but some saw successes even in the shadow of "Endgame."

In second place, "The Intruder," a modestly budgeted ($8 million) thriller with Dennis Quaid and Meagan Good, survived poor reviews and did the best of the batch with $11 million in box office receipts. The Sony/Screen Gems film was released on 2,222 screens.

Although close behind on the charts in third place, Lionsgate and Point Grey's "Long Shot," a politically-themed romantic comedy with Seth Rogen and Charlize Theron, failed to make a significant dent against its pricier budget. The film, which was the best reviewed of the newcomers by far, grossed an estimated $10 million from 3,230 screens, against a reported $40 million budget. But word-of-mouth could also help propel "Long Shot" to profits ultimately.

"'Long Shot' has a shot at staying power," Dergarabedian said. "But there's a lot of noise to rise above."

The unluckiest of the new movies was "Uglydolls," an animated film based on the toys featuring the voices of Kelly Clarkson, Nick Jonas, Blake Shelton and Janelle Monae, which placed fourth with $8.5 million. STXfilms' first animated feature cost $45 million to produce after production rebates. It does, however, still have a China release later this summer.

Industry-wide, the continued success of "Endgame" has also helped the box office deficit, which went from down 13.2% last weekend to down 10.9% this weekend. And Dergarabedian said that the industry may be on its way to a record summer, still.

"It's not just about one movie this summer," he said. "There's a lot more to come from every studio. Diversity of content will rule the day."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "**Avengers: Endgame,**" $145.8 million ($282.2 million international).
2. "**The Intruder**," $11 million.
3. "**Long Shot**," $10 million ($3.3 million international).
4. "**Uglydolls**," $8.5 million ($955,000 international).
5. "**Captain Marvel**," $4.3 million ($1.2 million international).
6. "**Breakthrough**," $3.9 million.
7. "**The Curse of La Llorona**," $3.5 million ($5.8 million international).
8. "**Shazam!**" $2.5 million ($2.3 million international).
9. "**Little**," $1.5 million ($400,000 international).
10. "**Dumbo**," $1.4 million ($4 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Comscore:

1. "**Avengers: Endgame**," $282.2 million.
2. "**Capernaum**," $13.1 million.
3. "**We'll End Up Together**," $7 million.
4. "**The Curse of La Llorona**," $5.8 million.
5. "**Wonder Park**" and "**Always Miss You**," $4.7 million.
6. "**Dumbo**," $4 million.
7. "**Long Shot**," $3.3 million.
8. "**Inseparable Bros**," $3.2 million.
9. "**Shazam!**" and "**After**," $2.3 million.
10. "**Queen's Corgi**," $1.7 million.

Italian artist Lorenzo Quinn builds bridges over Venice

MILAN (AP)—Italian artist Lorenzo Quinn created a splash on the sidelines of the Venice Biennale contemporary art fair two years ago with a gigantic sculpture of a child's hands reaching out of the Grand Canal, calling attention to climate change that threatens, among other things, to sink the lagoon city.

For this edition, Quinn has created a successor sculpture that he wants to be a call to action: Six pairs of arching hands creating a bridge over a Venetian waterway, symbolic of the need to build bridges and overcome divisions.

They are being erected in the Arsenale former shipyard against the backdrop of a city that stands as an historic East-West gateway—and as Europe prepares to vote in a continent-wide election that is shaping up as a battle of populism against more open social democratic traditions.

The sculpture isn't meant as a campaign platform, Quinn says. But his ideals are clear.

"Humanity has never grown by creating barriers. It always grows when it opens up its borders and it welcomes new cultures," Quinn told The Associated Press by telephone on Friday as he oversaw the installation another pair of the arching, clasping, white resin hands. "Venice is a testament to that. Venice opened routes to Asia, the Far East, with Marco Polo and the Merchants of Venice. It has been a driving force of European growth always."

Quinn's "Building Bridges" installation, like "Support" before it, is a collateral event to the Venice Biennale, which runs May 11-Nov. 24. Both projects have been backed by Venice city officials, after the Biennale refused to accept "Support" two years ago.

Madonna gives emotional speech at GLAAD Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Madonna, a pioneer for gay rights, accepted the Advocate for Change Award at the 2019 GLAAD Media Awards with a rousing speech that went from playful to emotional, bringing the audience to its feet.

The 60-year-old pop icon turned heads as she walked to her table at the Hilton Midtown in New York on Saturday night, before taking the stage to celebrate her three decades of advocacy work in the LGBTQ community.

"Why have I always fought for change? That's a hard question to answer. It's like trying to explain the importance of reading or the need to love. Growing up I always felt like an outsider, like I didn't fit in. It wasn't because I didn't shave under my armpits, I just didn't fit in, OK," she said. "The first gay man I ever met was named Christopher Flynn. He was my ballet teacher in high school and he was the first person that believed in me, that made me feel special as a dancer, as an artist and as a human being. I know this sounds trivial and superficial, but he was the first man to tell me I was beautiful."

Madonna went on to say Flynn took her to her first gay club in Detroit, and that the evening changed her life.

"For the first time I saw men kissing men, girls dressed like boys, boys wearing hot pants, insane, incredible dancing and a kind of freedom and joy and happiness that I had never seen before," she said. "I finally felt like I was not alone, that it was OK to be different and to not be like everybody else. And that after all, I was not a freak. I felt at home, and it gave me hope."

Madonna also said Flynn pushed her to leave Michigan and go to New York to pursue her dreams. And when she arrived in the Big Apple in 1977, she was in awe with all New York had to offer—diversity, creativity—but she also learned about the AIDS epidemic.

"The plague that moved in like a black cloud over New York City and in a blink of an eye," she said and snapped her fingers, "took out all of my friends."

Trump attacks social media companies after Facebook bans

STERLING, Va. (AP)—President Donald Trump criticized social media companies after Facebook banned a number of extremist figures, declaring that he was "monitoring and watching, closely!!"

Trump, who tweeted and re-tweeted complaints Friday and Saturday, said he would "monitor the censorship of AMERICAN CITIZENS on social media platforms." He has previously asserted that social media companies exhibit bias against conservatives, something the companies have rejected as untrue.

The president's comments came after Facebook this week banned Louis Farrakhan, Alex Jones and other extremists, saying they violated its ban on "dangerous individuals." The company also removed right-wing personalities Paul Nehlen, Milo Yiannopoulos, Paul Joseph Watson and Laura Loomer, along with Jones' site, Infowars, which often posts conspiracy theories. The latest bans apply both to Facebook's main service and to Instagram and extend to fan pages and other related accounts.

Facebook's move signaled renewed effort by the social media giant to remove people and groups promoting objectionable material such as hate, racism and anti-Semitism. The company said it has "always banned" people or groups that proclaim a violent or hateful mission or are engaged in acts of hate or violence, regardless of political ideology.

'Jeopardy!' host Alex Trebek's Emmy Award comes with ovation

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Alex Trebek got a standing ovation as he accepted an Emmy Award as host of "Jeopardy!"—and immediately set the audience at ease, even as he alluded to his cancer diagnosis.

Trebek, 78, who announced in March he has advanced pancreatic cancer, told the theater audience Sunday he had been worried that sympathy, rather than merit, might snare him the trophy for best game show host.

But then he mulled what happened last year, after he underwent surgery to remove life-threatening blood clots on his brain.

Trebek

"You think that would have elicited a certain amount of sympathy. But I didn't win!" he said, drawing roars from the crowd that moments before had stood to applaud him. Instead, he said, he realized that maybe he'd been worrying about the wrong thing and instead should emulate Oscar winner Sally Field.

"You guys like me, and you value my work. I tell you if that's the case, I can live with that," said Trebek, his voice thick with emotion but poised and looking dapper in his tuxedo.

At the 1985 Academy Awards, Field famously declared, "'I can't deny the fact that you like me, right now, you like me," as she accepted the best actress trophy for "Places in the Heart."

While Trebek's honor comes during a health challenge for him, it has been a year of highlights for the long-running quiz show he has hosted since 1984. The show aired its first all-star team championship, and it is in the midst of a dazzling performance by contestant James Holzhauer, who has racked up more than $1.6 million in winnings.

Trebek, who now has seven Daytime Emmys, including one for life achievement, wasn't the only TV veteran to be honored at the 46th ceremony.

Judith Sheindlin, aka "Judge Judy," received a lifetime achievement award, and the ceremony paid tribute to 50 years of "Sesame Street."

'Jumanji' stars share New Mexico experiences on social media

FARMINGTON, New Mexico (AP)—The stars of the latest installment in the "Jumanji" franchise have posted to social media about their experiences while filming in New Mexico.

The Farmington Daily Times reported Friday that the cast and crew of the forthcoming "Jumanji" sequel have completed filming in Farmington.

Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart and Jack Black shared photos and videos on Instagram and YouTube about their time in the city 182 miles (293 kilometers) north of Albuquerque.

Hart and Johnson expressed gratitude and admiration for the Navajo Nation.

Johnson trained at Defined Fitness and said that while he required security to hold back overzealous fans, he can "highly recommend" the gym.

Black filmed himself playing—and losing—shuffleboard among the locals at Three Rivers Tap & Game Room.

"It's a rad little town," Black said.

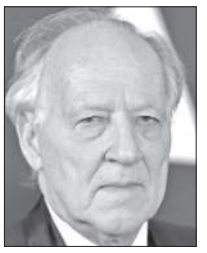
Werner Herzog praises new 'Star Wars' series 'Mandalorian'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Werner Herzog is calling "The Mandalorian" "a phenomenal achievement" after joining the cast of the streaming series set in the "Star Wars" universe.

Herzog told The Associated Press that he'll likely appear in two or three episodes of Jon Favreau's series as "a character in whom you cannot trust." The series, starring Pedro Pascal, Gina Carano and Carl Weathers, is set to premiere in November with the launch of the new Disney Plus streaming service.

The famed 76-year-old German writer, director and actor does have a confession: He's never seen a "Star Wars" movie.

"I've seen some trailers. I've seen some excerpts here and there. And I know about the whole franchise and about the toys for the kids and so—it's all a new mythology," Herzog said. ... You better take them seriously."


Herzog

Herzog said he was impressed by the practical, real-world approach of "The Mandalorian," whose directors include Taika Waititi and Bryce Dallas Howard. The series is set in the aftermath of "The Return of the Jedi," taking place five years after the Rebellion's victory.

"'Mandalorian' was filmed not like all the other 'Star Wars' or other big event films —green screen, green screen everywhere—and the camera motion-control moving there," Herzog said. "All of a sudden you have a phenomenal step forward. As an actor, you see the entire planet on which you are. You see the landscape."

"The camera, that could even be hand-held and move in between us, sees the same landscape. It's not green-screen and artificiality. It brings movie-making back where it should be. It's a phenomenal, phenomenal achievement," he said.

Herzog was interviewed this week while promoting his new documentary "Meeting Gorbachev."

Looted art, gay rights merge in recovery of Polish painting

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—A same-sex Los Angeles couple was dumbfounded when Homeland Security agents showed up at their home in 2016 with the news that a beloved old portrait hanging in their kitchen had been looted by the Nazis from Poland's National Museum during World War II.

With heavy hearts, they relinquished the 17th-century painting, "Portrait of a Lady" by the Flemish artist Melchior Geldorp, which they had bought unaware of its origins, donating along with it a 19th-century frame that they had bought for it.

The portrait is now hanging again in the National Museum in Warsaw, nearly eight decades after its theft, its return welcomed in a ceremony last September attended by Poland's culture minister, the American ambassador and the couple.

The two men, Craig Gilmore and David Crocker, were recently back in Poland using the connections they gained with their goodwill gesture to reach out to the local LGBT community, offering financial donations and messages of solidarity to a group that faces misunderstanding and discrimination.

Poland's conservative ruling party leader, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, recently called the LGBT rights movement a foreign import that threatens Poland, a predominantly Roman Catholic nation where some see liberal Western values as eroding their own traditions. The National Museum has itself been a focus of the government's conservative drive, with some officials seeking recently to remove erotic or feminist works.

In early April, with cameras rolling, Gilmore, an opera singer, dropped to one knee in a Warsaw park and proposed to Crocker, an artist, who said yes. Gilmore said while the two 55-year-olds have discussed marriage during their more than 20 years together, it felt right to do in a place where neither same-sex marriages nor civil unions are allowed.

Gilmore said they hoped with their gesture to "invite the Polish LGBTQ community to join in our joy. David and I are confident that very soon they will prevail in their struggles."

The local LGBT community appreciated the show of solidarity but saw its limits.

"It was a nice and brave gesture to do it in Warsaw, the capital of one of the few remaining EU countries not to recognize any form of partnership between people of the same sex, but the problems are too massive and profound to be changed symbolically," said Vyacheslav Melnyk, the director of Campaign Against Homophobia.

Diana Ross feels 'violated' by airport screener's touching

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Diana Ross says she feels "violated" by an airport screener who touched her between her legs after she performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

In a series of tweets on Sunday, the Motown legend says she blames the Transportation Security Administration for a screening at the New Orleans airport that makes her want to cry. She said she can "still feel her hands" between her legs, front and back.

TSA spokesman Mark Howell said in a statement to The Associated Press that the agency is investigating, but its initial video review indicates all protocols were followed. He says the agency is committed to treating all travelers with respect and courtesy.

Ross tweeted that she was treated like "royalty" while performing but "treated like "sh--" at the airport.

Daughter tries to mediate among estranged family

DEAR ABBY: My sister "Thea" has distanced herself from the family. I understand why she did. Our parents were mentally, physically and emotionally abusive while we were growing up, with one who instigated the issues and the other taking it out on us kids.

I feel stuck in the middle of chaos. My parents have started to work on their behaviors and make amends for past conduct. It comes a bit too late for apologies, even for me, but I decided to give them a second chance since they seem sincere. Thea told them she wants nothing to do with them.

Recently, she contacted me asking me to suggest that my parents help out a family member who was in dire straits. I told Thea I would suggest it, but I couldn't guarantee what their response would be. Their response was that if she wanted something from them, she needed to ask them herself and not through an intermediary.

I'm at a loss as to how to tell both sides that I'm tired of being the middleman, as this has become an emotional thing between all parties involved. I'm also not sure how to open the discussion for them to air their differences whether they reconcile or not. Help!

STUCK IN THE MIDDLE

DEAR STUCK: Thea has cut herself off from your parents for good reason. You are no more "in the middle" than you want to be. Tell your sister that if a family member is in trouble, THAT person should approach your parents and ask for help, not do it through you or another intermediary.

DEAR ABBY: I have a 27-year-old son, "Bobby." He was living with me and his grandma, and two years ago he got a puppy, which I took care of, potty-trained and fed. "Champ" even slept with me. Needless to say, he became a family dog, and my 83-year-old mom became quite attached to him.

Bobby started dating a gal. After four months, they decided to move in together, and he took Champ with him. My mom has been crying every day for our pet.

Because they both work, they leave Champ home alone all day, and he howls until they get home. I asked Bobby if we could have visitation once a week because we miss Champ so much. His girlfriend got involved and told me Champ is their dog and they are not sharing him. I was very upset since he was our dog for two years.

I no longer have a relationship with my son over the dog and girlfriend, and my mother has a broken heart. Am I wrong here?

CANINE WAR IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WAR: You weren't wrong to be upset. Your mistake was letting the disagreement cause an estrangement from your son. If Champ's incessant howling causes a problem for Bobby's neighbors, he and his girlfriend might be receptive to letting you and Grandma take him while they are working. However, if they cannot see the logic, consider adopting a rescue dog to ease your mother's aching heart and give her something else to love other than Champ.

READER ALERT! If you know a student who would like to enter the $5,000 Dear Abby College Columnist Scholarship Contest, see the information at DearAbby.com/scholarship and learn more. The deadline is fast approaching.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

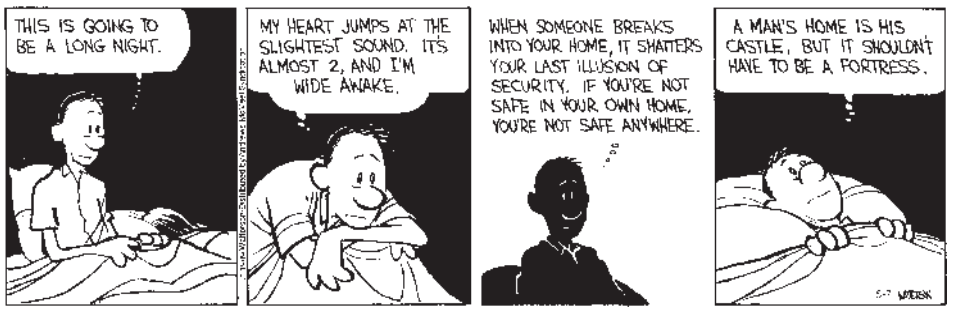
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THIS IS GOING TO BE A LONG NIGHT.
MY HEART JUMPS AT THE SLIGHTEST SOUND. IT'S ALMOST 2, AND I'M WIDE AWAKE.
WHEN SOMEONE BREAKS INTO YOUR HOME, IT SHATTERS YOUR LAST ILLUSION OF SECURITY. IF YOU'RE NOT SAFE IN YOUR OWN HOME, YOU'RE NOT SAFE ANYWHERE.
A MAN'S HOME IS HIS CASTLE, BUT IT SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE A FORTRESS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

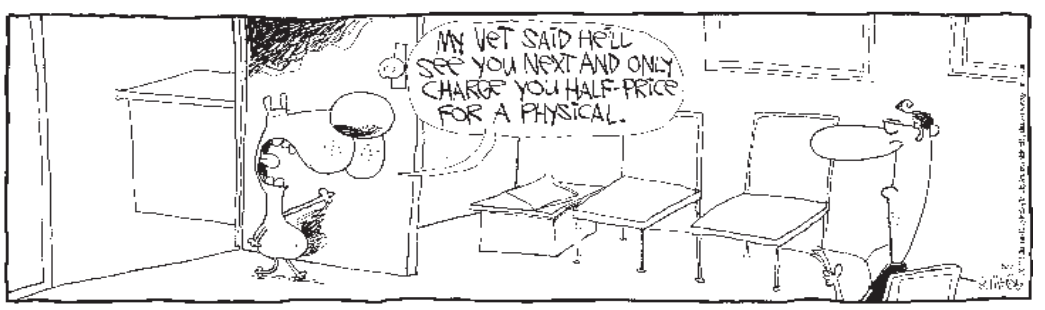
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SHH.
I'M LYING IN WAIT FOR THAT UFO.
DRONE, KITE OR TOY ON A STRING - I'M GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.
YOU'RE SITTING ON A HOSTA.
I KNOW. THEY'RE MORE COMFORTABLE THAN THEY LOOK.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Choir voice
5 Right angle
8 Dallas team, to fans
12 Check
13 Sheep call
14 Out of the storm
15 Rub with an emery board, perhaps
17 Speck
18 Author Fleming
19 T-shirt fabric
21 Primitive
24 Spartan queen
25 Hamilton-Burr showdown
26 Criticize again and again
30 Nabokov novel
31 Two-tone cookies
32 Ms. Thurman
33 Road marker
35 Help a crook
36 Temporary calm
37 Steinway product
38 "With any luck"
41 Fragrant tree
42 2004 on a cornerstone
43 Color akin to turquoise
48 French river
49 Wildebeest
50 Cold War initials
51 Getz of jazz
52 Kenny G's instrument
53 Litigates

DOWN
1 "Bow-wow!"
2 Island garland
3 Up to
4 "Anna Christie" playwright
5 Black, in verse
6 Murphy's —
7 Guinevere's lover
8 Rum cocktail
9 Oodles
10 Presidential power
11 Penn or Astin
16 Calendar box
20 Praiseful pieces
21 Dutch cheese
22 German car name
23 Authentic
24 "The Sound of Music" teenager
26 Drags out
27 Hefty horn
28 Portent
29 Peacekeeping org.
31 Piece of work
34 Football team
35 Boeing rival
37 Chart format
38 Med. plan options
39 Skip
40 Tower city
41 Change
44 — pickle
45 Baton Rouge sch.
46 Exploit
47 Hosp. parts

Solution time: 22 mins.

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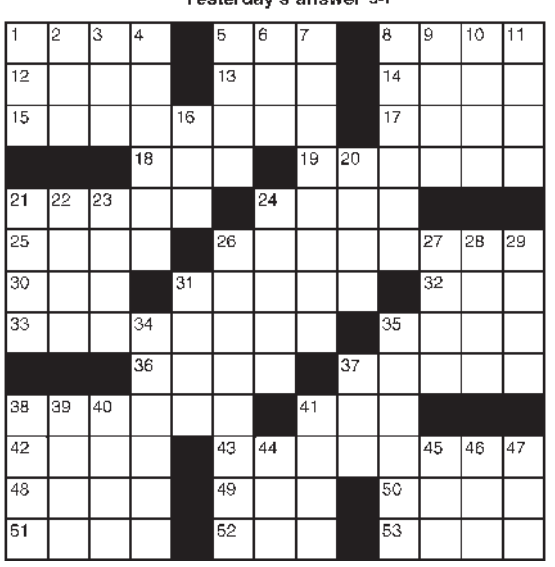
Yesterday's answer 5-7



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alexander Ludwig, 27; Sydney Leroux, 29; Breckin Meyer, 45; Amy Heckerling, 65.

Happy Birthday: Look at every angle of a situation before making a decision this year. You can manufacture positive options using your intelligence, experience and the strong connections you've made with people who have something interesting and unique to offer. A financial gain or opportunity should not be overlooked. Being steadfast, strong and innovative will bring good results. Your numbers are 3, 12, 21, 28, 34, 36, 40.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Use charm and enthusiasm to win favors. If you try to force others into seeing or doing things your way, you will end up working alone. Taking a simple approach and offering incentives will help you gain support. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Take the initiative and start a dialogue with someone with more experience to get the information you need to reset your attitude and achieve a goal. Your dogged approach to getting what you want will pay off. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Plan for a trip, meeting or presentation. How you physically and mentally prepare will be important to the outcome. Having an up-to-date image and tech-savvy lingo will be important. An opportunity to form a partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Be careful not to make a mistake regarding your assets, taxes or other important documents. If you try to hide personal information, someone will notice and bring it to your attention. Being a straight shooter will help you avoid setbacks. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Stick to what you know and do best. If you appear to be procrastinating, you will miss out on an opportunity. Participation is in your best interest. Personal physical improvements will turn out well and increase your chance to get ahead. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Play fair, but don't lose sight of your purpose and what you are trying to achieve. Learn through observation in order to bypass a mistake others have made. A personal or emotional incident should not be revealed. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Live and learn. Participate in events or pursuits that will help build character and add to your qualifications. Positive personal gains as well as connections with individuals can be made. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* A change to the way you use your skills, experience or knowledge will help catapult you into the limelight and up the ladder. Your subtle approach to the way you do things will be impressive. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll be drawn to people who share your enthusiasm, energy and choice of entertainment, interests and ethics. Physical improvements will give you added strength and the dexterity to accomplish your goals. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* A change will do you good. Examine what others are doing, and you'll come up with a new way to use your intelligence and skills to get ahead. Don't trust anyone asking for money. Invest in your future, not someone else's. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Do your own thing. If you follow someone else, you will miss getting the glory and the satisfaction of achievement. You have the skills and the desire, so get moving. Don't overreact to a change or someone's uncertainty. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be careful not to let your imagination run wild. A practical approach to helping others, handling money and living within your means and without being indulgent will help ward off misunderstandings and problems with friends and family. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are persistent, curious and intense. You are ambitious and opportunistic.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	9	4		7		8		
	5	8						1
		6	5		3			
				1				8
3			2			6		
4			3					
	2			6	4			
7					8	4		
	6		5		3	9		

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	7	6	4	9	1	8	2	3
1	3	4	8	2	7	5	9	6
2	9	8	5	6	3	1	7	4
3	1	7	2	5	9	4	6	8
6	4	2	7	3	8	9	1	5
9	8	5	1	4	6	7	3	2
4	5	9	6	1	2	3	8	7
8	6	3	9	7	4	2	5	1
7	2	1	3	8	5	6	4	9

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

LUKE PERRY (1966-2019) Solution: 5 letters

B	L	I	N	D	I	S	C	R	E	E	T	D	D	T
A	E	U	E	N	O	R	A	A	N	O	T	H	E	R
Y	M	V	T	H	G	N	I	L	L	E	P	S	R	I
R	O	E	E	H	D	O	H	E	R	T	Y	N	F	A
L	A	I	R	R	E	D	E	M	P	T	I	O	N	N
S	S	C	E	I	L	R	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	G
T	S	W	H	V	C	Y	R	O	T	C	A	P	I	L
O	S	G	H	E	R	A	H	S	A	N	N	M	H	E
R	O	W	O	R	L	D	N	I	D	M	C	I	C	V
M	P	B	N	D	G	C	I	L	L	K	A	S	R	E
O	H	I	O	A	E	L	O	R	A	L	C	R	A	R
V	I	S	R	L	L	T	A	Y	T	T	S	A	D	A
A	E	T	T	E	D	N	U	O	B	G	O	F	J	G
R	H	E	M	A	F	L	O	R	E	N	T	I	N	E
B	N	J	O	H	N	N	Y	A	W	D	A	O	R	B

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Aaron, Actor, American, Andrews, Ann, Another, Archie, Beverly Hills, Bold, Bravo, Broadway, Coy, Dirt, Dogs, Doherty, Drama, Fame, Florentine, Fogbound, Fred, Garth, Heist, Honor, Indiscreet, Jack, Johnny, Leverage, Loved, Luther, McKay, Ohio, Promise, Rachel, Redemption, Riot, Riverdale, Role, Sandlot, Share, Simpsons, Sophie, Spelling, Stan, Storm, Triangle, World

Yesterday's Answer: Sleep

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Former NCAA champ wins; McIlroy falters

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Max Homa traded in a shovel for a ladder to get places he always thought he could reach.

Two years ago in his second try on the PGA Tour, he made only two cuts the entire season and played only one round on a Sunday. Eight months ago, he was on the verge of going back to Q-school and an uncertain future until closing with four straight birdies to make the cut in a Web.com Tour event that gave him another shot at the big leagues.

It made Sunday all that much sweeter in the Wells Fargo Championship.

In a three-way tie for the lead, in the final group on the PGA Tour for the first time, with Rory McIlroy, Justin Rose and Sergio Garcia right behind him, Homa outplayed them all with a 4-under 67 for a three-shot victory at Quail Hollow and his first PGA Tour title.

McIlroy was primed to join Tom Weiskopf as the only three-time winners at Quail Hollow, starting the final round two shots behind. He never got anything going until it went the wrong way. He turned a 20-foot eagle attempt into a three-putt par on the par-5 seventh, failed to get up-and-down on the reachable eighth for a birdie, and then went bogey-double bogey around the turn to take himself out of the mix.

No one else was much of a threat either, just two guys who had never come remotely close to winning on the PGA Tour.

"I used to say when I hit rock bottom I found a shovel and kept digging. I went to some low, low places," he said. "I'd use a shovel and dig deeper. I went to some low, low places. I realized in that year or two when I started to play bad that my attitude was going to have to get a lot better. ... I'm very proud I finally found a ladder and started climbing, because it was getting dark down there."

AP

Max Homa poses with the trophy after winning the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 5, 2019.

Suddenly, the immediate future is bright as can be.

He has a two-year exemption on the PGA Tour, a tee time at the PGA Championship in two weeks at Bethpage Black and a spot in the Masters next year.

A former NCAA champion at Cal, Homa has "Relentless" in block letters tattooed on his right forearm. The 28-year-old Californian also has a signed photo from former Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda, who once told him to look at the picture and be reminded to believe in himself.

The trophy at his side, Homa's press conference was interrupted for him to take a call from the 91-year-old Lasorda.

"I guess my whole world is different," he said.

Golf felt so hard for Homa for so many years after he left Cal, and then he made it look so easy in a final round that made him so nervous he wanted to throw up, except when he had his hands on a golf club. He pulled away with two birdies to start the back nine for a four-shot lead. He didn't make a bogey until it only affected the final margin. But it was a one-hour rain delay that tested Homa the most.

He was leading by three when he nearly went in the water on the 14th hole and chipped up to 6 feet when the horn sounded to stop play. With time he didn't need on his hands, he called his fiancée and his coach and can't remember what either of them said.

And then he returned and buried the putt.

"I knew in the back of my mind if I made that putt, I win this golf tournament," he said.

Joel Dahmen, who pushed Homa as hard as any major champion, saved par with a tough chip over the creek for a 70 and finished three shots behind.

"I didn't beat myself today, which was kind of the goal," Dahmen said. "Max is playing awesome. He's a good friend. I think we're going to celebrate tonight."

Homa effectively sealed it with a perfect play to the green on the par-5 15th for a two-putt birdie, and a 10-foot par putt on the 17th to keep a three-shot leading playing the tough closing hole at Quail Hollow. He made a 10-foot par there, too, and the celebration was on.

Homa finished at 15-under 269.

"Over the moon, man," he said before going to sign his card. "It means a lot to do it under pressure, and job security is great. I haven't had that."

The victory was worth $1,422,000, about $454,000 more than he had made in his previous 67 starts.

Justin Rose (68) finished alone in third and moved ahead of Brooks Koepka to No. 2 in the world.

Former PGA champion Jason Dufner, part of the three-way tie for the lead to start the final round, made consecutive bogeys early and had no bearing on the final round. A double bogey on the 18th gave him a 73 and dropped him into a tie for fourth.

Rose pulled within two shots with a birdie on the par-5 10th, only to settle into a series of pars. By the time Sergio Garcia reached double digits under par, Homa was well on his way.

Homa and Dahmen were at 13 under until Dahmen blinked first. He found a fairway bunker on No. 9, couldn't get to the green and made bogey and dropped another shot on the 11th. Homa, playing behind him in the final group, holed a 15-foot birdie putt on the 10th for a two-shot lead, made birdie from the left rough on the 11th with a 12-foot putt and escaped more trouble off the tee on the 12th with a two-putt from 80 feet.

He survived the rain delay, the nervy finish.

Man United's Top 4 chances over, Chelsea moves to 3rd

LONDON (AP)—Manchester United will have to settle for Europa League football next season after a dismal end to this campaign reached another low.

Chelsea, though, can start planning for the Champions League again.

The Premier League's top-four picture crystalized on Sunday as Chelsea earned a 3-0 home win against Watford while United and Arsenal were both held to 1-1 draws.

It means Chelsea is guaranteed to finish at least fourth — earning a coveted Champions League spot after a year in the Europa League — while United can no longer end up better than fifth after next weekend's final round.

"We haven't deserved to be a top-four (side)," United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said after his team limped to a draw at already relegated Huddersfield. "When we got the opportunities we weren't able to really grab them. Today was just the confirmation of a long season. Because in the end, the table doesn't lie."

Arsenal, meanwhile, will need a small miracle to overtake fourth-place Tottenham as it trails its north London rival by three points and an eight-goal margin on goal difference. The Gunners were also held 1-1 by Brighton at the Emirates in its final home game of the season, meaning it will probably have to win the Europa League in order to clinch a Champions League spot.

Chelsea and Arsenal could meet in the Europa League final if they both advance from the second leg of the semifinals on Thursday.

Much like Solskjaer's entire tenure so far, it all started well for United at Huddersfield only for the team to falter in the end.

Its already slim top-four hopes ended in almost symbolic fashion as a defensive breakdown in the 60th minute allowed the hosts to equalize through Isaac Mbenza, who was allowed to run clear through on goal on a quick counterattack. It was the kind of mistake that has plagued Solskjaer's team too often in recent weeks, with the team winning just one of its last eight games in all competitions.

Scott McTominay had given United the lead in the eighth minute with a shot that slipped underneath Jonas Lossl, but the Huddersfield goalkeeper made amends by setting up the equalizer on the hour mark. After collecting a cross, he quickly booted the ball up the pitch and an error by Luke Shaw allowed Mbenza to come one-on-one with David De Gea.

"We have conceded too many of those this season," Solskjaer said. "It hurts, every time you don't win a game of football. Especially with the start we made."

Mbenza's goal was only Huddersfield's 10th at home this season and he celebrated by kicking the corner flag so hard it broke—leading to a five-minute delay as stadium staff searched for a replacement.

For the opening 45 minutes, it looked like Chelsea would also fail to capitalize on Tottenham's loss at Bournemouth on Saturday. The first-half display at Stamford Bridge was so poor that Maurizio Sarri's side was booed off by the home crowd at the break.

But Ruben Loftus-Cheek gave Sarri some breathing space with a header in the 48th minute and David Luiz netted the second just three minutes later from another corner.

Gonzalo Higuain added the third with an elegant chip past goalkeeper Ben Foster from a difficult angle.

Sarri said Thursday's trip to Eintracht Frankfurt in the Europa League semifinals — where Chelsea drew 1-1— could have contributed to the poor start.

Much like United, Arsenal's dismal domestic form let it down again.

Granit Xhaka gave away a needless penalty by pulling down Solly March to allow Glenn Murray to equalize from the penalty spot in the 61st minute and cancel out an early spot kick by Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang.

Arsenal have only earned four points from its last six league games.

Nuggets, Raptors even out semis series

AP

Toronto Raptors' Kyle Lowry, left, and Philadelphia 76ers' Jimmy Butler, right, go after a loose ball during the second half of Game 4 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Sunday, May 5, 2019, in Philadelphia. The Raptors won, 101-96.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Denver Nuggets have been good at bouncing back all season.

Not even a draining four-overtime defeat could keep this team down.

Nikola Jokic had 21 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his second straight triple-double and fourth of the playoffs, and the Nuggets evened their Western Conference semifinal series against the Portland Trail Blazers at 2-2 with a 116-112 victory Sunday.

It was less than 48 hours after Portland's epic 140-137 quadruple-overtime victory to take a 2-1 lead in the series. It was only the second game in playoff history that went to four OTs. The other was in 1953.

"I think it's not quitting. We have a lot of competitive guys who don't want to lose. I think we don't want to lose more than we like to win — which is weird," Jokic said. "We just didn't want to have the excuse that we lost because of four overtimes, because we were tired."

Jamal Murray led all scorers with 34 points and made all 11 free throws for the Nuggets, who handed Portland its first postseason loss at home this season. The series now heads back to Denver for Game 5.

CJ McCollum had 29 points and Damian Lillard added 28 for the Blazers, who missed out on taking a 3-1 lead in a conference semifinals for the first time since 2000.

"Our guys are tough. We're resilient," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "I mean, to come in here and win this game 36 hours after losing in four overtimes, speaks to just how tough we are."

Malone cited regular-season statistics to back up his claims: Denver was 12-1 in the second game of back-to-backs, best in the NBA. The Nuggets were good in close games, too: 13-3 in games decided by three points or less, he said.

"We just said to ourselves, 'If we win today then the last game doesn't really matter that much,'" Jokic said. "Yes we played a four-overtime game, it was exhausting, but we won tonight so the last game doesn't really matter."

Denver outscored the Blazers 27-14 in the third quarter to take an 84-77 lead into the fourth. Malik Beasley kicked off the final period with a 3-pointer for the Nuggets.

Rodney Hood's 3-pointer got the Blazers within 110-107 with 52 seconds left and Lillard's layup got the Blazers even closer at 112-110 with 7.7 seconds to go.

But Murray's free throws gave Denver a four-point lead. McCollum hit a long jumper that after a video replay was ruled a 2 and Denver prevailed.

"It is disappointing. You go up 3-1 and you have a lot of momentum and obviously that would be a great position to be in. But they're a good team, they came out and played well," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "We had a bad third quarter and that kind of made the difference. We made a good comeback, but now it's a three-game series."

Jokic played 65 minutes in the quadruple-overtime loss, the fourth-most minutes in NBA playoff history and just two short of the record. McCollum led the Blazers with 60 minutes.

Fatigue was more of a concern for the second-seeded Nuggets, who had just one day off after their seven-game, first-round series against San Antonio. The Blazers dispatched of first-round opponent Oklahoma City in five games, clinching their first trip to the conference semifinals since 2016 on Lillard's buzzer-beating 3-pointer.

In Philadelphia, Kawhi Leonard got some help from his teammates to stay close and then finished it off himself.

Leonard scored 39 points, including a clutch 3-pointer with 1:01 left, and the Toronto Raptors beat the Philadelphia 76ers 101-96 on Sunday to even the Eastern Conference semifinal series at 2-2.

"Just really growing up learning from great players, I was fortunate enough to be on some good teams early," Leonard said, "so I was able to see defenses and go on deep playoff runs and I feel that helped me out today."

Marc Gasol scored 16, Kyle Lowry had 14 and the Raptors rebounded after consecutive losses to reclaim home-court advantage.

"We needed some punch around the roster," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "It was a different mentality. Guys were looking to shoot, taking the first shot that was there."

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Toronto.

Jimmy Butler scored 29 and JJ Redick had 19 for Philadelphia. The 76ers are trying to reach the conference finals for the first time since Allen Iverson led them to the NBA Finals in 2001.

Toronto, which earned the No. 2 seed after winning 58 games, has been bounced out in the semis two straight seasons.

Joel Embiid struggled after scoring 33 points in Philadelphia's 21-point victory in Game 3. The All-Star center played through an illness and only had 11. Sixers coach Brett Brown said Embiid texted him early in the morning saying he wasn't sure if he could play.

"To his credit, he willed his way through it," Brown said.

Butler banked in a 3-pointer from the top of the circle as the shot clock expired after briefly losing the ball to give the Sixers an 84-81 lead in the fourth. But Gasol answered with a 3 to tie it and the Raptors went up 89-85 on Leonard's jumper. Butler and Leonard traded a pair of free throws before Redick hit a 3 to cut it to 91-90 with 2:07 left.

Following a turnover, Embiid missed a layup. Leonard then nailed a step-back 3 to put Toronto up 94-90. Danny Green made four free throws in the final minute to ice it.

Brown called Leonard's 3-pointer a "backbreaker" and compared his ability to create his own shot to Kobe Bryant. The 3 came right before the shot clock expired and Leonard had Embiid in his face.

"I came off a pick-and-roll. They were switching. Embiid is a good defender, long, and I just wanted to get it to the back of the rim," Leonard said.

Playing before a raucous crowd, the Sixers failed to take control of the series and now must win at least one more game on the road to advance.

"We got humbled," Butler said.

Serge Ibaka made the defensive play of the game in the second quarter, racing back down the floor to reject Tobias Harris during Philadelphia's 3-on-1 fast break. But the Raptors missed a shot on the opposite end and Embiid answered with an emphatic dunk.

Bucks-Celtics, Warriors-Rockets ready for Game 4s

The scenario is simple right now for Milwaukee and Golden State: Win a road game on Monday, go home toting a 3-1 series lead and be one win away from a spot in the NBA's version of the Final Four.

The scenario is equally simple for Boston and Houston: Win a home game on Monday, or else.

Top-seeded Milwaukee leads fourth-seeded Boston 2-1 in their Eastern Conference semifinal series, and top-seeded Golden State leads fourth-seeded Houston 2-1 in their Western Conference semifinal. The Celtics and the Rockets host Game 4s, knowing a win will earn them a berth in what becomes a best-of-three showdown and knowing a loss places them squarely on the abyss that overlooks elimination.

"It's a great opportunity to respond," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said.

Boston had the home-court edge over Milwaukee, then gave it back with a loss on Friday night. Houston was a bounce or two away from getting into the most-dreaded 3-0 hole against Golden State, then rallied to win Game 3 on Saturday night and keep realistic hope alive against the two-time defending NBA champions.

"Every game is a must win for us, and we have to play like that," said Houston's P.J. Tucker, who made a slew of key effort plays to help the Rockets survive Game 3. "Every single possession, we have to fight for the ball, fight for everything the entire game."

Houston reserve Danuel House, who missed Saturday's game, is questionable for Game 4 because of a toe injury. For the Warriors, Kerr said Saturday that Damian Jones, who tore a pectoral muscle in the beginning of December, might be cleared for contact practices next week and could return if the Warriors advance. Kerr added that center DeMarcus Cousins, who injured a quadriceps muscle in the first round, has made marked progress and could also play this postseason. "He's come a pretty long way," Kerr said.

The Celtics and Warriors are going to be looking for more from their star guards in Game 4.

Boston's Kyrie Irving was 8 for 22 from the floor in the Celtics' Game 3 loss. Golden State's Stephen Curry—playing with fingers taped together on his left hand following a dislocation of his middle finger—was 7 for 23 in the Warriors' Game 3 loss, and was almost universally mocked on social media after missing a dunk in the final seconds.

"I want to shoot the ball better, and that's going to happen," Curry said.

A big boost for Boston could come from Marcus Smart, who hasn't played in a month and has yet to appear in these playoffs after a left oblique tear. Smart practiced on Sunday and has been cleared for contact, though no determination for his Game 4 availability has been officially made.

"I'm close," Smart told reporters Sunday.

"He's close," Stevens said.

That would seem like a strong hint.

Padres stun Dodgers on Renfroe grand slam

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Pinch-hitter Hunter Renfroe hit a grand slam with two outs in the ninth inning off Kenley Jansen to give the San Diego Padres a thrilling 8-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday.

Renfroe drove an 0-1 pitch into a balcony on the Western Metal Supply Co. Building in the left-field corner. He dropped his bat and raised his arms before beginning his trot.

The Padres, who avoided a three-game sweep, started the winning rally with three straight singles off Jansen (2-1), who was trying for his third save in three games. Eric Hosmer hit a leadoff single to left and Manuel Margot and Wil Myers followed with bunt singles to load the bases. Jansen struck out Greg Garcia and got rookie Francisco Mejia to pop up before Renfroe's slam.

Adam Warren (2-0) pitched a perfect ninth for the win.

AP

San Diego Padres' Hunter Renfroe reacts after hitting a walkoff grand slam during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Sunday, May 5, 2019, in San Diego.

Cubs 13, Cardinals 5

In Chicago, Kris Bryant hit his fourth career grand slam in the six-run eighth inning and the Cubs pounded St. Louis for their season-high seventh consecutive victory.

Willson Contreras, Anthony Rizzo and David Bote each drove in two runs, helping the Cubs leapfrog the Cardinals for first place in the NL Central. Ben Zobrist had two hits and made two nice plays in left field as Chicago completed a three-game sweep.

Since opening the season with eight losses in 11 games, the Cubs have won 16 of 20.

Paul DeJong and Marcell Ozuna homered in the ninth for St. Louis, which lost its season-high fourth straight. Adam Wainwright (3-3) was pulled after his first three batters reached safely in the sixth.

Astros 10, Angels 4

In Monterrey, Alex Bregman hit a grand slam, his third homer during a two-game series in Mexico, and Houston blew out Los Angeles for the second straight day.

The Astros, who won 14-2 on Saturday, hit eight home runs in front of pro-Houston crowds at Estadio de Beisbol de Monterrey. On Sunday, Carlos Correa had a two-run homer in the second inning and Michael Brantley hit a two-run shot in the ninth.

Bregman greeted Cam Bedrosian, who relieved starter Matt Harvey with two outs and the bases loaded in the fifth inning, by blasting a 2-0 fastball to the batter's eye in center field. Harvey (1-3) was charged with five runs on five hits.

Justin Verlander (5-1) allowed homers in each of the first two innings but rebounded with four scoreless frames.

Pirates 5, Athletics 3

In Pittsburgh, starling Marte hit a game-ending three-run homer in the 13th inning, rallying the Pirates past Oakland after the Athletics scored twice in the top of the inning.

Cole Tucker started Pittsburgh's comeback with a one-out single off Fernando Rodney (0-2). Jung Ho Kang walked and Adam Frazier drove in Tucker with a single before Marte drilled a ball out to center.

Tyler Lyons (1-0) got the win despite struggling in his Pirates debut. After pitching a 1-2-3 12th, he walked the first two batters in the 13th and allowed an RBI single to Kendrys Morales and a run-scoring double to Stephen Piscotty before getting pitcher Yusmeiro Petit to hit into an inning-ending double play.

Brewers 3, Mets 2

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich homered in his return to the lineup and Zach Davies pitched into the eighth inning as the Brewers completed a three-game sweep of New York.

Yelich, the NL MVP, was back in the starting lineup after missing five consecutive games with low back soreness. He hit a two-run, 440-foot homer off Jason Vargas (1-2) that caromed off the third deck in right and gave Milwaukee a 3-0 lead in the third inning.

With its bullpen depleted, the Brewers got a much-needed performance from Davies (4-0).

Yankees 4, Twins 1, 8 innings

In New York, Domingo German kept delivering on a wet, raw afternoon, tying for the major league lead with his sixth win as the Twins stopped Minnesota.

Mike Tauchman hit a two-run homer to help New York win for the 11th time in 15 games. The Twins lost two of three after coming into Yankee Stadium this weekend with the best record in the majors.

It was 51 degrees, windy and damp at gametime, and the start was pushed back three hours in advance to avoid an expected storm. Still, rain fell for most of the day and pelted the park hard in the late innings before the game was halted.

German (6-1) stayed in control, giving up one run and four hits in 6 2/3 innings while striking out seven.

Red Sox 9, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Xander Bogaerts hit a grand slam in Boston's seven-run eighth inning against the White Sox.

Mitch Moreland went 2 for 3 with two RBIs, and J.D. Martinez and Eduardo Nunez each had an RBI single as Boston won for the sixth time in seven games to move within a game of .500 at 17-18.

Jose Abreu and Ryan Cordell each had a solo homer for Chicago, which has dropped three straight.

Kelvin Herrera (0-2) began the disastrous eighth inning for the White Sox.

Tigers 5, Royals 2, 10 innings

In Detroit, Brandon Dixon hit a three-run homer in the 10th inning to lift Detroit over Kansas City.

Nicholas Castellanos started the 10th with an infield single off Ian Kennedy (0-1), and after Miguel Cabrera popped out, Niko Goodrum reached on another infield hit. Ronny Rodriguez struck out, and then Dixon hit a 1-2 curveball over the fence in right-center field for his first career walk-off homer.

Buck Farmer (2-2) got the win after retiring the last batter in the top of the 10th.

Mariners 10, Indians 0

In Cleveland, rookie Erik Swanson didn't give up a hit until the sixth inning and got his first win, and Jay Bruce blasted a grand slam as Seattle snapped a six-game losing streak.

Making his fourth career start, Swanson (1-3) lost his no-hit bid with two outs in the sixth when Cleveland's José Ramírez doubled.

Swanson was pulled after six innings and 106 pitches. Brendon Brennan, Mike Wright and Zac Rosscup completed the combined two-hitter.

Rangers 10, Blue Jays 2

In Arlington, Rougned Odor and Asdrúbal Cabrera each homered and combined for seven RBIs, and Texas rolled past Toronto.

Drew Smyly came off the injured list to hold Toronto to one run and two hits in four innings in his first game since April 19. He had been sidelined with mid-arm nerve tightness.

Kyle Dowdy (2-1) entered the game to start the fifth with a 7-1 lead and pitched two scoreless innings.

Phillies 7, Nationals 1

In Philadelphia, Zach Eflin pitched seven strong innings and Rhys Hoskins drove in a pair of runs to lead Philadelphia past Washington.

Cesar Hernandez added two doubles for the NL East-leading Phillies, who have won six of nine.

Kurt Suzuki homered for the third straight day for Washington, which has lost eight of 11.

Eflin (4-3) gave up one run on four hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 7

In Denver, Raimel Tapia hit a tying, bases-loaded triple and scored the go-ahead run during a five-run eighth inning, and Colorado beat Arizona.

The rally salvaged the finale of the three-game series and ended Arizona's six-game road winning streak. Eduardo Escobar and Blake Swihart homered for the Diamondbacks.

The Rockies trailed 7-3 when they loaded the bases with no outs against reliever Archie Bradley (1-3).

Scott Oberg (1-0) allowed two runs in the eighth but got the win, and Wade Davis got the final three outs for his fifth save.

Giants 6, Reds 5

In Cincinnati, Brandon Crawford delivered a tiebreaking, pinch-hit homer in the ninth inning to help San Francisco erase a four-run first-inning deficit and beat Cincinnati.

Crawford's two-run shot lifted the Giants after Cincinnati homered on three straight pitches by starter Jeff Samardzija in the first.

Buster Posey hit a tying, three-run homer in the sixth and opened the ninth with a one-out double against Raisel Iglesias (1-5). Crawford followed with his second career pinch-hit homer deep into the right field seats, lifting the Giants to their third win in four games.

Tony Watson (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth to support the comeback. Will Smith worked around Kyle Farmer's first career pinch-hit homer with two outs to earn his ninth save in nine tries.

Braves 3, Marlins 1, 10 innings

In Miami, Ender Inciarte faked a bunt and instead slapped an opposite-field RBI double down the line to break a 10th-inning tie, and Atlanta completed a three-game sweep at Miami.

Nick Markakis' home run gave Atlanta a lead in the seventh, but the Marlins tied it with three consecutive singles in the eighth off Josh Tomlin (1-0).

Tayron Guerrero (1-1) walked pinch-hitter Josh Donaldson to start the 10th. Inciarte then squared to bunt but instead shot a grounder into the left-field corner, and pinch-running pitcher Max Fried slid home when the relay throw bounced away from catcher Chad Wallach.

Bigger NMI-hosted world ranking tennis tourney

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sean Lee is among the CNMI players who will see action in the 2019 Northern Marianas Juniors Championships later this month at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

This year's Northern Marianas Junior Championships will be a bigger one, as each draw of the girls and boys singles will have a maximum of 48 players.

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association official Jeff Race announced the good news last week at the Northern Marianas Sports Association meeting after getting the nod from the International Tennis Federation.

"This is good because we do not only get to see more off-island players, but we will also give slots to more CNMI junior players," Race said.

For the past several years, the Grade 5 event's limit in singles play is 32.

As of yesterday, 35 players have made it to the acceptance list of the tournament that will run from May 20 to 26 at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard courts and ITF is still receiving inquiries from players around the world. The boys division so far has 42 and if the number reaches over 48, a qualifying tournament will be held.

South Korea and world No. 483 Yunseok Jang leads the acceptant list in the boys division, while the two next best-ranked players in the group are both from Chinese-Taipei—No. 604's Nan Hsun Lin and Yen-Hsun Lin.

Other players on the list are from Japan, the Philippines, Germany, Australia, the U.S., Sri Lanka, China, and Singapore. The CNMI's Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, Jun Wang, Sean Lee, Seung Hyun Kim, and Jimin Woo are also on the acceptance lineup.

In the girls division, Japanese and world No. 565 Manami Ukita is on top of the list, followed by Hong Kong and No. 620 Chui Kei Long and China and No. 647's Zijun Jiang.

The Commonwealth's Tania Tan, Malika Miyawaki, and Maria Gregoire will also compete in the ITF Juniors event along with other Japanese bets and players from South Korea, Chinese-Taipei, Zimbabwe, India, the Philippines, and Australia.

The champion in the singles event will earn 30 world ranking points, while the doubles winners will get 25.

'Political chaos' envelops tennis as French Open approaches

PARIS (AP)—Tennis is in turmoil as the French Open approaches.

As three-time major champion Stan Wawrinka put it: "Politics have overshadowed the action on the courts."

In a letter published Friday in The Times of London, Wawrinka decried his sport's "worrying decline in moral standards" and outlined several aspects of the ongoing drama enveloping the men's tour—and causing more of a racket than the rackets themselves.

"I feel compelled to express my views on this regrettable period in our sport," said Wawrinka, who once was ranked as high as No. 3 and is currently 33rd after a series of injuries. "This episode has left many players, myself included, concerned about the direction tennis is heading in."

AP

Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka gestures after losing to Spain's Guillermo Garcia-Lopez in their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Monday, May 28, 2018 in Paris.

There certainly has been a lot going on behind the scenes with regard to who runs the men's professional tour, and lately it's been spilling into public view. The conversation is sure to continue until a key vote for the ATP board of directors takes place May 14 in Rome—and through the next Grand Slam tournament, which begins at Roland Garros on May 26.

Wawrinka slammed the representatives on the board and the player council, saying the problem is not with the governing structure but the caliber of the people in positions of importance.

Wawrinka's letter mentions "political chaos" and the "numerous conflicts of interest" that plague tennis. It also prominently discusses a topic about which he already had been outspoken: Justin Gimelstob, the ex-player, coach and TV commentator who resigned from the tour board this week after pleading no contest to misdemeanor assault for attacking a former friend. While Gimelstob's case still was pending, he was allowed to remain in his powerful ATP post.

SIS

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tookthe silver and Agape Christian School's Daniel Huang (4:07.15) settled for the bronze.

Guerrero went home with one more medal—gold—after topping the longest race of the day (1,500m), as he clocked in at 7:29.54. He was the lone runner to finish the race under eight minutes, as silver medalist Huang and Benjamin Cai, also from Agape, timed in at 8:37.68 and 9:20.55, respectively.

Meanwhile, in the two field events, Kagman Elementary School and Tinian split the gold medals. Borja bagged the gold in the softball throw after registering 22.64 meters and beating Koblervile's Vince Eusebio (16.12m) and Napu Pangelinan (14.14m). In the long jump, Kagman's Tatum Jones recorded 2.88m to prevail against Pangelinan (2.65m) and Mt. Carmel's Donald Tagabuel (2.47m).

In the girls U7 long jump, Beatrice Gross won the gold medal after tallying 2.73m and her 10.96 seconds in the 60m run also landed her to the first spot. Lucy Woo clinched first placed in the 800m run (4:07.62), giving SIS the best medal haul in the girls division.

Joining Gross in the Top 3 of the 60m race were Koblerville's Sapalyn Apas (11/18 seconds) and Rota's Niarah Muna (13.14 seconds). In the long jump, Apas also came in at second (2.66m), while SCS' Allie Brasuelle was ranked third (2.52m).

In the other field event—the softball throw—Tinian's Kaisa San Nicolas earned the gold after logging 17.99m and downing Apas (14.48m) and William S. Reyes' Aliiyah Villacrusis (9.7m).

Apas, after losing to Gross in the 60m run, ruled the 100m race after clocking in at 18.20 seconds and defeating the latter (18.50 seconds). San Nicolas finished third with her 18.84 seconds. In the 200m race, Rota's Krisha Aguero (39.89 seconds) placed first and was joined in the podium by Gross (41.97 seconds) and San Nicolas (42.27 seconds).

For the 400m, it was Brasuell's turn to shine, as she completed the race in 1:33.29, while WSR's Memzie Elieisar (1:48.16) and Mt. Carmel's Neya Tagabuel (2:02.05) came in at second and third, respectively.

Besides the U7 age group, the All Schools meet also had competition in the U9 and U11 divisions and results will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* on Wednesday and Thursday.

MCS

From Page 28

match early, as he scored 6 points off two triples. Leo Naraja and O'hane Borja also contributed to MCS' cause, as they maneuvered their way past the Geckos' defenders and delivered 4 points each. Derek Sasamoto's midrange jumper capped the Knights' impressive 16-8 scoring run in the first period. Danny Lee nailed 6 points, while Daniel Nam made the other 2 points for the Geckos.

SIS then struggled against Mt. Carmel's swarming defense in the second quarter, as the former managed to score only 2 points off Lee's banked shot. On the other hand, the Knights steadily built on their hot start, as Naraja dished out assists to Borja and Sasamoto and drilled a trey of his own to give his team a baker's dozen lead, heading into the break.

When action resumed, the Knights still outgunned the Geckos, 7-6. Then in the fourth frame, Mt. Carmel was held scoreless, but its double-digit lead was enough to secure the team the win.

Naraja registered a team-high 9 points, while Borja and San Nicolas submitted 6 apiece. Lee and Nam had 8 points each for the Geckos.

In other results, Agape marched past Northern Marianas International School, 63-22.

The Torchbearers buried the Phoenix right from the onset, as seven Agape players teamed up in giving the squad a 20-6 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

Jordan Miao ended up top-scoring for Agape with his 14 points and the Torchbearers spread the wealth, as Antonio Li, David Zheng, and Samuel He chipped in 8 apiece. Eddie Valdoz led NMIS with his 8 points.

With the win, Agape wrapped up the regular season with a perfect 12-0 record, while NMIS finished with a dismal 2-10 card.

Meanwhile, SCS outclassed the visiting Seventh Day Adventist, 56-8.

The Tsunamis' suffocating defense held the Guardians to just 4 points after the first three quarters, while the former piled on 44 markers en route to an easy victory.

Charlie McDonald and Isaiah Aleksenko spearheaded SCS' victory, as the former submitted 20 points and the latter registered 16 markers, 12 came in the second period. Kaito Rechucher and Tommy Jin were the only scorers for SDA with the former logging 6 points.

SCS rebounded from a three-game losing streak and finished with a 5-7 mark, while the Guardians fell to a 2-8 record.

With the regular season in the books, the playoff round for the boys and girls divisions are tentatively scheduled from May 13 to 17.

Agape automatically advanced to the semifinals after topping the boys division, while the pairings in the quarterfinals are as follows: No. 4 SIS vs No. 5 SCS, No. 3 Grace Christian Academy vs No. 6 NMIS, and No. 2 MCS vs No. 7 SDA.

In the girls division, No. 1 ACS will take on No. 4 SDA, while No. 2 MCS will play against No. 3 GCA.

First Game

MCS 30—Naraja 9, Borja 6, San Nicolas 6, Sasamoto 4, Regalado 3, Mercado 2.

SIS 20—Lee 8, Nam 8, Casey 2, Mister 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-8, 23-10, 30-16, 30-20

Second Game

Agape 63—Miao 14, He 8, Li 8, Zheng 8, Tang 6, Qiu 6, Dai 4, Song 3, Bao 2, Hu 2, Liang 2.

NMIS 22—Valdoz 8, Pineda 5, Mateo 4, Michael 3, Tang 2

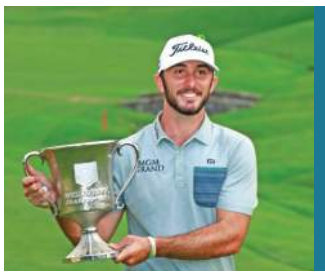
Scoring by quarters: 20-6, 36-13, 52-20, 63-22

Third Game

SCS 56—McDonald 20, Aleksenko 16, Kang 8, Borja 6, Timmons 4, Sea 2.

SDA 8—Kaito Rechucher 6, Jin 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-4, 30-4, 44-4, 56-8



Former NCAA champ wins; McIlroy falters

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Nuggets, Raptors even out semis series

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Koblerville, SIS triumph

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Koblerville Elementary School and Saipan International School won the most medals in the U7 division of the 2019 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships held over the weekend at the Oleai Sports Complex.

In the boys division, Koblerville earned four gold medals, two silvers, and two bronzes, while in the girls field, SIS gained three golds and two silvers.

Runner Jephda Hong delivered all four gold medals for the Umangs after ruling the 60m, 100m, 200m, and 400m races.

He clocked in at 10.18 seconds in the 60m to beat Tinian's Calen Borja (10.50) and SIS' Dean Duenas (11.00). The Koblerville runner also edged out Borja in the 100m run with the former posting 17.06 seconds versus the latter's 17.46, while Saipan Community School's Jude Rayphand rounded out the Top 3 after registering 18.23 seconds. Hong made it three in a row against Borja after recording 36.06 seconds in the 200m run against the Tinian bet's 37.91 seconds, while SIS' Oliver McCallion finished third (39.02 seconds). The Koblerville first grader eventually completed a sweep of the short races after logging 1:19.68 in the 400m and downing McCallion (1:32.24) and Justin Defang (1:33.08), also an Umang.

After falling short in two sprint events, McCallion got the gold medal in the 800m run (3:36.71), while his fellow SIS student, Andre Guerrero (3:48.78)

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JON PEREZ
The Top 3 finishers in the 4x100m run pose with their medals during the awards ceremony for the 2019 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Two Saipan International School students race in the 200m run during the opening of the 2019 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

MCS, SCS win last regular season games

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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CORRESPONDENT

Mount Carmel School, Saipan Community School, and Agape Christian School closed out strong after defeating their respective opponents in the last set of regular season games in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Middle School Basketball League yesterday.

The Knights built a 23-10 lead over the Geckos in the first half of their match at the Koblerville Gymnasium and never looked back for the 30-20 win that also gave them the No. 2 team in the playoffs. Mt. Carmel finished the round with a 9-3 record, while SIS had a 5-6 slate and will be seeded fourth in the playoffs.

Gabby San Nicolas helped the Knights' control the

See MCS on Page 27

ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
Saipan Community School's Charlie McDonald muscles his way through the defense of a Grace Christian Academy player during an earlier game in the CCOPSA caging at the SCS court in Susupe. McDonald scored 20 points in SCS' 56-8 demolition of the Seventh Day Adventist School yesterday.

NMSA to allot $60K for Pacific Games trip

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association is allocating $60,000 from its lottery earnings to Team CNMI's participation in the 2019 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

The financial assistance will be split among the athletes and officials from various sports that will join the Games, which will run from July 7 to 20.

So far, tennis, golf, athletics, badminton, rugby, swimming, va'a, and beach volleyball have either turned in the names of the athletes that will compete in the quadrennial event or confirmed their participation. NMSA is looking at over 70 athletes and officials with va'a initially listing 19 delegates, rugby with 12, tennis with nine, swimming and badminton with seven apiece, beach volleyball with six, and athletics and golf with five each.

Weightlifting, which initially committed to send at least four athletes, won't make it to Samoa due to budgetary constraints. In the last two regional competitions (2017 Pacific Mini Games and 2018 Micronesian Games), weightlifters delivered medals for the Commonwealth.

The exact subsidy per delegate will be determined once NMSA finalize the Team CNMI roster, but it would not go lower than $500/each. The estimated cost of each delegate's participation to the Pacific Games is a little over $3,000 with the bulk of it (between $2,000 to $2,600) going to airfare. Samoa organizers are charging $35 per diem for meals and accommodation/transportation at the Athlete's Village.

On top of the $60,000 that NMSA will fork out, Team CNMI will also get $10,000 from the Oceania National Olympic Committee, where the Commonwealth is an associate member.

"We would like to thank ONOC for their assistance," said NMSA president Michael White during the group's monthly meeting last Thursday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

White also announced that Team CNMI will not be able to get assistance from the government due to austerity measures.